FOIS DAILY REPORT

Asia & Pacific

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USSR NUCLEAR SUB SIGHTED IN TOW OFF SOYA POINT

OW280651 Tokyo KYODO in English 0646 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 28 KYODO -- A Soviet nuclear-powered cruise missile submarine was being towed off Soya Point toward Kamchatka peninsula by a Soviet naval rescue boat Wednesday morning, a antisubmarine P-3C patrol aircraft reported to the Maritime Selt-Defense Force (MSDF). The submarine was one of the 29 Echo II class cruise missile submarines of the Soviet Union and has eight missile tubes and eight torpedo tubes, according to Jane's Fighting Ships. It was about 200 kilometers east of Soya Point at 8:15 a.m., the MSDF said.

The submarine had apparently developed a fault, they said, adding it was the third such incident spotted by Japanese patrol aircraft.

U.S. ADMIRAL, NAKASONE DISCUSS SOVIET BUILDUP

OW260851 Tokyo KYODO in English 0539 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 26 KYODO -- Admiral Ronald J. Hays, commander in chief of the U.S. Navy in the Pacific, spoke of a growing Soviet military buildup in the Far East and in the Pacific in a meeting Monday with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone. Hays also told Nakasone that the Soviets are contemplating an advance into the South Pacific through fishery agreements with island countries in the region and other means, a government official said.

The premier told him that Japan is closely following the Soviet Union's increased military presence in the Far East, the official said after the meeting. Nakasone and Hays also briefly discussed a project to provide a base for night landing practice by U.S. carrier-based aircraft and a housing project for U.S. servicemen stationed in Japan. The two projects have been stalled due to strong local opposition on Miyake Island to an air strip and in the city of Zushi, Kanagawa Prefecture near Tokyo, to a housing development.

Hays said he has had confidence in the continued use of the two U.S. bases in the Philippines -- Subic Naval Base and Clark Air Base -- in view of close relations between the U.S. and the Filipino people.

SALMON ACCORD WITH USSR REACHED, QUOTA REDUCED

OW241211 Tokyo KYODO in English 1202 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union reached an accord on salmon fishing in the northwestern Pacific Saturday, with Japan agreeing to slash its quota, officials said. The agreement set Japan's catch quota for this year at 24,500 tons, down 35 percent from last year.

The fishery "cooperation fee" to be paid by Japan to the Soviet Union was lowered to 3.5 billion yen from 4.25 billion yen last year. The accord was reached after protracted negotiations held at the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo since May 12.

Japan decided to compromise in face of a Soviet Threat to impose a total ban on salmon fishing within three years, government officials said.

They said the government also was concerned that a further delay in reaching accord might force fishermen to miss the rest of the fishing season, which started on May 1. They said the Japanese fishing fleet will now be ready to begin operations around June 1.

The officials denied that the sharp cut in the catch quota would result in a spiraling of salmon prices, as hauls in the area account for only a little over 10 percent of Japan's annual consumption. The fishing industry, however, expressed serious concern about its future as the Soviets made it known that they will give priority to preservation of resources over collection of fishery cooperation fees from Japan. Industry officials said Japan will be forced to reduce its salmon fishing fleet, which now totals about 380 boats.

The dwindling catch quotas will also affect the employment of 150,000 to 200,000 people engaged in the industry, they said. Under an agreement reached with the United States in March, Japan decided to halt salmon fishing in international waters in the Bering Sea in 1997. Fisheries companies plan to increase imports and diversify their businesses in order to cope with the situation.

NAKASONE AIMS AT 'STABLE MAJORITY' IN ELECTIONS

OW281031 Tokyo KYODO in English 1016 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 28 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Wednesday he is determined that the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) will win a "stable majority" in the upcoming double elections and called on the party to close ranks to fight the election. The prime minister outlined the LDP electoral goal in a speech before Japan's top business leaders a day after his cabinet endorsed a plan to summon the Diet into session on June 2 to pave the way for the double poll.

While avoding declaring a specific date for the vote, Nakasone made it clear that he wants to bolster the LDP's strength in the Diet to the point where the party can control all the parliamentary standing committees -- where substantial Diet business is conducted. Balloting for both lower and upper houses of the Diet is generally expected to take place on the first Sunday of July.

"If we lose in the election, all the efforts the Nakasone cabinet has made in the past three-and-a-half years will go down the drain," he told a gathering of Keidanren, a grouping of Japan's top business leaders and the LDP's chief political backers. The business group was marking the inauguration of new Keidanren President Eishiro Sato, who is chairman of Nippon Steel Corp.

The LDP's strength in the powerful 511-member lower house has been slashed to 250 seats as a result of a setback it suffered in the previous election in December 1983, and party leaders have said they want new elections to recover the lost ground. Nakasone said the government can only act resolutely if the LDP controls "a stable majority" in both chambers of Parliament. A "stable majority" would mean at least 271 seats in the lower house, which would enable the ruling party to control all standing Diet committees.

Touching on the economy, Nakasone said the government plans to announce shortly a new package of relief measures to help the embattled small business section and draw up a demand-boosting supplementary budget if warranted. Nakasone, an advocate of austere financial policy, however, cautioned that his administration has no plan to deviate from its commitment to restructure the government's deficit-ridden finances.

However, he said the government will take a "flexible and soft" approach in formulating a supplementary budget, which he described as an "emergency measure" to boost the sagging economy.

Nakasone's reference to an "emergency measure" came amid criticism from his party rivals that he tried to soft-pedal a concession he made last Monday in winning party support for the double election. Nakasone's remarks Wednesday were taken to mean that the government may make an exception to its long-held deficit-cutting commitment in order to come up with a demand-boosting extra budget, possibly through deficit financing. LDP leaders have mentioned 3 trillion yen as the targeted size of the supplementary budget.

POLL SHOWS NAKASONE POPULARITY DECLINING

OW241131 Tokyo KYODO in English 1054 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO -- The popularity of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's cabinet has declined, reflecting public discontent with his economic policy, according to a public opinion poll conducted by KYODO NEWS SERVICE. It showed that 54.3 percent of those polled supported the Nakasone cabinet, down from 55.8 percent in the previous poll last March. The nonsupport rate rose to 38.3 percent from 32.9 percent.

Citing the yen's recent steep rise, 26.5 percent of those who declined to support the cabinet complained of its poor economic management. The survey was conducted May 20 and 21 among 3,000 eligible voters picked at random across the nation. A total of 2,062 people responded. It showed that the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) had a popularity rate of 53.6 percent, slightly up from the previous survey.

Support for the largest opposition party, the Japan Socialist Party, climbed above the 15 percent mark for the first time in about 18 months to hit 15.7 percent while that for Komeito and the Japan Communist Party also rose marginally to 5.3 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively. The support rate for all opposition groups stood at 29 percent.

The popularity rate for the Nakasone cabinet began to decline after hitting a high of 59.6 percent in September last year. The nonsupport ratio has also risen steadily since hitting a low of 31.1 percent in September. Discontent with economic policy remained the main factor for nonsupport for the cabinet.

The support rate for Nakasone among those in favor of the IDP declined to 74.4 percent this time from over 80 percent in previous surveys, indicating that his leadership in the party has weakened in face of an intraparty struggle to unseat him.

CHON'S REVISION 'GUISE' PLOT TO PROLONG POWER

SK271333 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2151 GMT 25 May 86

[NODONG SINMUN 26 May commentary: "Plot Aimed at Prolonging Power Under the Guise of Constitutional Revision"]

[Text] Puppet Chon Tu-hwan recently called members of the so-called Committee for the Study of the Constitutional System to Chongwadae and made a so-called speech on Constitution before them while handing letters of appointment to them. The content of the speech is that the Constitution should be earnestly studied on the basis of an agreement of the people and should be revised in such a way as to cause no discord until unification has been achieved. This may sound as though he had a will to bring about democratic political development in South Korea and to revise the Constitution. However, in fact, he does not have any will to bring about democratic political development nor to revise the Constitution. The dictator's stand toward constitutional revision remains unchanged. His talk about the study of a constitutional government system is nothing but a crafty trick to deceive public opinion.

If the Constitution is to be revised on the basis of an agreement of the people as babbled about by him, the committee for the study itself should be formed from representatives of the masses of all strata. However, the committee for the study consists of those selected by the DJP. In other words, they are underlings of the dictator and Yusin remnants.

Speaking of Min Pok-ki, who is so-called chairman of the committee for the study, he was chief justice of the Supreme Court under the previous dictator. He greatly contributed to fabricating and enforcing the Yusin constitution.

It is only too clear that the people in South Korea can expect nothing from these underlings of the dictator and Yusin remnants. Expecting something from them is tantamount to an act of entrusting a baby to a tiger. What we cannot overlook in particular is the fact that those who are clamoring about the full reflection of the will of people by starting with a clean slate are directly challenging the will of people.

It is the vital demand of the South Korean people to revise the Constitution with an indirect presidential election system into one with a direct presidential election system to end dictatorial politics and to realize democratization in the social and political lives in South Korea. The currently deepening and developing antifascist struggle for democracy and the signature collection campaign for constitutional revision in South Korea are precisely the reflection of this urgent and vital demand. The South Korean people assert constitutional revision in favor of a direct presidential election system because the current Constitution with an indirect presidential election system cannot fully reflect the will of people nor can it achieve a peaceful change in government. However, the Chon Tu-hwan ring, while prattling that the will of the people should be gathered and reflected upon, is babbling that the direct presidential election system should be taboo.

In a foreign press conference, No Tae-u, representative of the DJP, revealing the DJP stand toward constitutional revision, opposed the direct presidential election system. The Chon Tu-hwan ring's so-called conception of a new constitution is very clear. That is to say, the Chon Tu-hwan ring is scheming to maintain the present indirect presidential election system as it is or to invent a new system for long-term office, not a direct presidential election system.

Puppet Chon Tu-hwan is clamoring that he will step down at the end of his term of office, leaving the precedent of a peaceful change of government.

However, in fact, he is still dreaming of the wicked ambition for a long-term office. If he had a will to step down, why is he opposing constitutional revision in favor of a direct presidential election system as demanded by the South Korean people?

The change of government fabricated within the ruling party while blocking the people's right to vote is a sham change of government and is meaningless. Puppet Chon Tu-hwan's clamoring about the study of a constitutional system is nothing but a smoke screen to soothe the resistance spirit of the masses who have risen up calling for the directator to step down from power.

It is not accidental that on that day the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique clamored that the experience of the past and foreign systems should be taken into consideration. The previous dictator Pak Choing-hui met a miserable fate after attempting to maintain a permanent term of office by fabricating the Yusin constitution modeled after the system of the imperial Rule Assistance Association of the Japanese imperialists and the generalissimo system of Taiwan. The experience of the past and foreign systems advertised by the Chon Tu-hwan ring are the Yusin constitution of Pak Chong-hui and the generalissimo system of foreign countries.

Puppet Chon Tu-hwan is babbling about the study of a constitutional system and the like. However, his plot to prolong his power cannot fool anyone. Puppet Chon Tu-hwan must give up the clumsy drama to bring the unstable political situation under control by throwing a wet blanket over the increasing debates on constitutional revision.

BUDDISTS FEDERATION PROTESTS ARREST OF REV MUN

SK280444 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Pyongyang May 28 (KCNA) -- Pak Tae-ho, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Buddhists Federation, issued a press statement on May 27 denouncing the South Korean fascist clique for illegally arresting and persecuting Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, chairman of the Federation of People's Movement for Democracy and Unification [Mintongnyon].

The persecution of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan by the South Korean fascist clique is not a matter confined to him but a vicious challenge to the South Korean people of all strata who have risen up in the national salvation struggle to make society independent and democratic and reunify the country, Pak Tae-ho said, and continued:

The fascist hangmen are bringing "charges" of all sorts against him and threatening to cancel even the "decision to suspend the execution of the sentence" on him and impose a harsher penalty on him. This is, indeed, a dastardly act of suppression.

Rev. Mun Ik-hwan behaved justly when he supported the righteous action of the students for national salvation and preached justice and patriotism to them.

The fascist clique's illegal suppression of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and other South Korean figures of various circles and students must be immediately stopped and those arrested must be released without delay.

CPRF ON PUMISHMENT OF USIS BUILDING OCCUPIERS

SK261235 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 25 May 86

[Information No. 344 issued by the CPRF Secretariat on 25 May in Pyongyang -- read by announcer]

[Text] According to news reports, on 22 May, the fascist military Chon Tu-hwan clique committed the fascist violence of formally taking into custody the 21 patriotic students who participated in the struggle of occupying the USIS building in Pusan on charges of violating the so-called laws concerning violent acts and on charges of interfering with government officials in the execution of their duties and then imprisoning them separately in jails of five police stations in Pusan. Such a tyrannical act of suppression by the fascist clique cannot but be an antinational criminal act of strangling patriotism by treason and of trampling underfoot justice by injustice.

As is known, at noon on 21 May, patriotic youths and students staged a struggle of occupying the USIS building in Pusan. After occupying the accursed USIS building, one of the U.S. imperialists' institutions of aggression, at one stroke, through an attack, the students built barricades in the library on the first floor, staging a stubborn sitin struggle, and fought bravely against hundreds of armed policemen who were pouncing on them like a pack of wolves for about 1 hour, shouting at the top of their voices such slogans as "U.S. imperialists, go home," "The United States should apologize for the Kwangju massacre," "The United States must remove nuclear weapons," and "Let us overthrow dictatorship."

Their brave act as such was an expression of resolute resistance to the U.S. imperialist aggressors who have not only forced all sorts of misery and misfortune on the South Korean youths, students, and people through their occupation of South Korea for over 40 years, but also suppressed the heroic Kwangju popular uprising by the use of military forces and controlled, from behind the scenes, the fascist dictator in committing the great Kwangju massacre. It was also an eruption of a firm patriotic will of the South Korean youths, students, and people who are now determined to usher in a new society governed by independence and democracy at all costs. It was an indisputably righteous and just act in that it reflects the unanimous aspirations of the South Korean people who are determined to put an end to the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule and lead independent lives.

Nonetheless, the Chon Tu-hwan ring, a group of heinous pro-U.S. flunkeyist traitors who are leading shameful lives by currying favor with alien forces, has once again put on display its nature as a colonial puppet by harshly suppressing, through a suppression order of the U.S. imperialist masters, the patriotic students who cried for independence and democracy and against war and nuclear weapons with the mobilization of some 600 riot policemen. In particular, this time the U.S. imperialists laid bare for all to see their nature as the ruthless imperialist rulers by openly directing the puppets' suppressive operations on the spot, completely throwing away even their deceptive mask of advocacy of human rights and democratic development.

Under the pretext of bringing the situation under control, a fellow holding the title of deputy chief of mission in the U.S. Embas y in Seoul went down to Pusan and is now inciting the fascist clique to suppress the patriotic youths and students.

Regarding the suppressive acts of the U.S. imperialists and the fascist Chon Tu-hwan clique against the participants in the struggle of occupying the USIS building in Pusan as a vicious challenge to the South Korean youths, students, and people who value national dignity and sovereignty and as an ignominious act of trampling underfoot justice and patriotism, the CPRF strongly denounces it.

They are trying, with bayonets, to put out the flames of anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation that are burning in the hearts of the South Korean youths, students, and people and to keep the collapsing fascist colonial rule afloat, to no avail. The firm will of the South Korean youths, students, and people for independence, democracy, and reunification cannot be bound even by fascist fetters.

The U.S. imperialists should immediately leave South Korea as demanded unanimously by the South Korean youths, students, and people, taking along their troops of aggression and nuclear weapons, rather than instigating the fascist Chon Tu-hwan clique to suppression. The Chon Tu-hwan ring should immediately unconditionally set free all the patriotic students whom it illegally arrested and imprisoned, abandoning the dirty treacherous act of attempting to win favor with its U.S. imperialist masters and to stay in power by suppressing the patriotic youths, students, and people.

[Dated] 25 May 1986, Pyongyang

SIGNIFICANCE OF SEOUL USIS BUILDING SEIZURE VIEWED

SK261310 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 23 May 86

[Roundtable talk among announcers Sin So-yon, Kim Chol-min, and Ko Il-chol from the "Feature Program": "The Realistic Meaning of the Struggle Through the Seizure of the USIS Building in Seoul"]

[Text] [Sin So-yon, Kim Chol-min] How are you?

[Ko I1-cho1] How are you?

[Kim] It has been a year since patriotic students seized the USIS building in Seoul and staged a sit-in struggle, moving the masses at home and abroad. I think that looking back on the sit-in struggle of the patriotic students by seizing the USIS building on the occasion of this anniversary is of great significance. First of all, will you briefly talk about the situation of the sit-in struggle on that day?

[Ko] Sure. It was 23 May last year. At around noon on that day, Ham Un-kyong, chairman of the Seoul National University [SNU] Struggle Committee To Win Democracy, Liberate the Masses, and Achieve National Reunification [Sanmintu], and 72 other patriotic students from SNU, Korea University, Yonsei University, Sunggyungwan University, and Sogang University occupied, in a moment, the USIS building at Ulchi-l-ro, Chung-ku, Seoul. They seized the library on the second floor and hung out slogans. They hung out such slogans as "Away with the United States," "The United States must take responsibility for the Kwangju incident and openly apologize for it," "The United States must assume responsibility for the Kwangju massacre," and "Down with Chon Tu-hwan." They branded South Korean-U.S. relations as a shameful master-servant relationship and demanded that the truth of the Kwangju incident be clarified. Also, they staunchly fought, demanding a formal meeting with the U.S. ambassador in South Korea to call the United States to account for the Kwangju incident.

They staged a sit-in until 26 May for 4 consecutive days. When they stopped the sit-in, they did not yield their firm faith and fighting resolve, but came out with the pride of victors, wearing headbands, on which letters reading "Overthrow dictatorship" and "Clarification of the truth of the Kwangju incident" were written in red ink, and singing the song "When the Day of May Comes."

[Sin] I think that, as we watched on television last year, the whole course of the seizure of the USIS building and the sit-in of the students showed that they fought well. I also consider that this was the unanimous comment of public opinion at home and abroad and that the seizure was of realistic significance.

[Ko] That is true. The attack on the USIS building in Seoul last year in the wake of attacks in Kwangju, Puson, and Taegu was a manifestation of our masses' resentment against the United States, the ringleader of the Kwangju massacre, and their strong will to make it pay back a thousand times for the blood shed.

The course of seizing the building and the sit-in there showed new, unprecedented characteristics. Unlike the past when the struggle had been waged on a small scale and in a sporadic manner, the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul was, above all, conducted in a premeditated and organized manner by the General National Federation of Students [Chonhangnyon] and the Sammintu, its vanguard organization.

At the second congress of the Chonhangnyon on 6 May last year, students issued the declaration of May struggle with the clarification of the truth of the Kwangju incident as its main content. After discussing directions for concrete action at the third congress held on 13 May, they made a final decision, on 21 May, to occupy the USIS building on 23 May. According to this decision, on 23 May, the patriotic students, including Ham Un-kyong, chairman of the SNU Sammintu, carried out the seizure of the USIS building. At the same time, Kim Min-sok, chairman of the Chonhangnyon, held a press conference and issued a statement in connection with the seizure of the USIS building.

[Kim] In addition, Korea University students, including Ho In-hoe, chairman of the Sammintu, declared that they would struggle together to realize the demands of the students involved in the sit-in and began a hunger strike. On 24 May, some 8,000 students from 18 universities also staged demonstrations, putting up the slogan "We actively support the sit-in at the USIS building."

[Ko] That is right. That fact alone showed well that the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul was organized and waged by the Chonhangnyon and the Sammintu and, furthermore, the anti-U.S. struggle of our youths and students was conducted with an organized foundation.

When I review the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul last year, I think that, unlike the anti-U.S. struggle in the past, the seizure was an exercise of force through which some demands were fulfilled and a heavy blow was dealt to the enemy. As you know, the United States inevitably came out to answer the strong demand of the students involved in the sit-in that the truth of the Kwangju incident be clarified.

In his letter sent to the students who were occupying the building on 24 May, U.S. Ambassador Walker said that the Kwangju incident was a tragedy and that the U.S. side recognizes the importance of the incident, and be confessed that it is true that the United States approved the deployment of martial law troops. He also agreed to the demand of the students that the United States hold a large seminar of the people to clarify the truth of the Kwangju incident with the participation of government delegates and with the first round of talks with the U.S. ambassador to be held on 18 June. This was nothing but a deceptive trick aimed at stopping the sit-in through seizure and nakedly revealed the weakness of the United States which found no other way.

[Sin] At that time, the patriotic students took the initiative in the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul and dealt a fatal blow to the enemy, forcing it to become passive and defensive.

[Ko] That is true. Commenting on the struggle of the patriotic students through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul, CHOSON ILBO wrote that the U.S. side was dragged from beginning to end by the (? strategy) of the students that success will be attained through struggle and that, from the standpoint of the students who seized the building, they attained great success.

The experience of the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul last year showed that the anti-U.S. struggle for independence was being rapidly expanded and deepened, that only when a plan is assiduously mapped out with correct slogans and preparations are made well can any fortress be destroyed and, furthermore, that only when the struggle is waged with an organized foundation and with a purpose in mind can it display greater might.

[Kim] I think that the struggle of the patriotic students through the occupation of the USIS building in Seoul a year ago is also of great significance from the present viewpoint. Will you briefly talk about this?

[Ko] Even though this question was briefly mentioned before, students demonstrated once again through the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul our masses do not want to live as colonial slaves of the United States, and, in other words, will not tolerate the U.S. colonial rule any longer, and indicted to the world the crimes of the U.S. aggressors who had manipulated and commanded the tragedy of the Kwangju massacre. This is one of the important significances of the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul.

[Sin] I think that we cannot forget the fact that the aggressive and murderous nature of the United States and the pro-U.S. traitorous nature of the Chon Tu-hwan group were nakedly exposed once again by the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul. What do you think about this?

[Ko] I agree with you. That fact was shown by the situation after the sit-in struggle. Having tried to find excuses while pretending to acknowledge the responsibility for the Kwangju massacre in the face of the staunch struggle of the students attending the sit-in, it [the United States] turned out in retaliation once the students stopped the sit-in. On 26 May last year, U.S. Ambassador Walker held a press conference, made violent remarks that the mobilization of martial law troops, on the contrary, helped Kwangju restore stability, and nakedly revealed the intrinsic nature of aggressors, saying that there is nothing for the United States to clarify and apologize for in connection with the Kwangju incident. That the Kwangju incident took place under the behind-the-scenes manipulation of the United States is a publicly acknowledged fact in the world.

Chon Tu-hwan also revealed his nature as a colonial puppet and lackey. This is shown by the fact alone that the students involved in the sit-in, including Kim Kin-sok, Ho In-hoe, and Ham Un-kyong, were illegally arrested and punished and are still imprisoned at present.

[Kim] We have, so far, discussed the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building in Seoul a year ago. It is believed that the masses of all walks of life, including youths and students, should revive the experience of the patriotic students on that day, who raised the Kwangju massacre as a social and political issue through the struggle through the seizure of the USIS building, clarify the truth of the Kwangju incident, and more valiantly wage the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle against the Chon Tuhwan group, the ringleader of the massacre of fellow countrymen, and the U.S. aggressors, accomplices who manipulated the group behind the scenes.

INCHON INVESTIGATION INTERIM REPORT 'FABRICATION'

SK271137 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 22 May 86

[Dialogue between announcers Kim Chol-min and Ko Il-chol from the "Focus on Topics" program]

[Text] [Kim Chol-min] Now are you?

[Ko Il-chol] How are you?

[Kim] On 19 May, the prosecutor's office kicked up rackets announced the result of the interim investigation into the so-called Inchon incident. The contents of the announcement are viewed as showing the Chon Tu-hwan group's ulterior motive to find an excuse for suppression by blurring the so-called Inchon incident and to split and fragment the inner circles of the movement. What do you think about this?

[Ko] The result of the interim investigation into the so-called Inchon incident announced by the prosecutor's office can be summarized as follows: Through the incident, the radical left-leaning organizations on campuses and some radical off-stage forces, which had decided to use the rally to form the Inchon and Kyonggi chapter of the NKDP committee to move ahead with constitutional revision as an opportunity for a decisive struggle to overthrow the system, attempted to cause a popular uprising after paralyzing the function of public order by staging a fierce and violent demonstration with assiduous plans and prior preparations.

Also, the announcement described the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle of youths, students, and citizens in Inchon as a violent class revolution and extremely leftist riot modelling after the contents of the southward propaganda and agitation of the North.

There is a proverb in our country that a thief calls another a thief. This proverb can be applied to such brazen wretches as the Chon Tu-hwan group trying to blur the Inchon incident.

As you know, on 3 May, countless numbers of students, workers, citizens, and democratic figures of the opposition party and the off-stage camp staged a strong anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle in Inchon before a rally to form the Inchon and Kyonggi chapter for the signature campaign for constitutional revision. The demonstrators, who turned out to struggle, held a ceremony to burn Reagan in effigy and the Stars and Stripes and staged a demonstration, chanting such slogans as "Away with U.S. imperialism" and "Down with dictatorship." This is a patriotic act of fully reflecting the opinions and aspirations of our people to put an end to the U.S. colonial rule in this land and overthrow the Chon Tu-hwan military and fascist dictatorship, and cannot be regarded as a crime.

However, the Chon Tu-hwan group bestially suppressed the demonstrators by mobilizing some 3,000 policemen. Having witnessed this suppression on the spot, foreign correspondents said that the spot was reminiscent of a second bloody Kwangju tragedy.

[Kim] The Chon Tu-hwan [group] not only repressed the demonstrators in such a dogged manner, but also prepetrated a despicable maneuver of mobilizing personnel who disguised themselves as students and citizens, of throwing them in the rally site, and of making them kick up rackets. In a word, the result of the so-called interim investigation in connection with the Inchon incident should be viewed as a DJP's fabricated work designed to suppress and stifle the righteous struggle of students.

[Ko] That is true. Such a fabricated work is a kind of prelude to bring the suppression of students onto a full-dressed stage by finding an excuse for the repression of the student movement. However, this fabrication cannot work anywhere.

[Kim] Through the announcement of the result of the interim investigation into the Inchon incident, the Chon Tu-hwan group branded the incident as a violent class revolution and extremely leftist riot, describing the incident as having been caused by the Committee for the Anti-Imperialist and Antifascist Struggle for the Nation and Democratization -- a radical, left-leaning organization of students -- and the United Movement of the Masses for Democracy and Unfication [Mintongnyon] -- off-stage organization. What do you think about this?

[Ko] As its truth has been exposed in detail, the Inchon incident on 3 May was caused by the despicable act of the government and the DJP that mobilized some 2,000 unidentified personnel and made them kick up rackets in order to frustrate in advance the rally to form the Inchon and Kyonggi chapter of the NKDP Committee To Move Ahead With Constitutional Revision.

This was also shown well by the 24-point report released by the NKDP special committee to probe into the Inchon incident of disturbance. According to the report, the cancelation of the Inchon rally was ascribed to the disturbing operations assiduously planned by the current government. Giving an example, the report stated that some 2,000 personnel, who disguised themselves as students and workers, showed up 2 hours before the opening of the rally and hindered the function on that day to the end. Citing the fact that their shoes, hair style, and behavior were the same, the report said that not students, but unidentified men of the government and ruling party frustrated the rally.

[Kim] On 8 May, the Mintongnyon also issued a statement and denounced the police for talking only about violence through the mass media despite the fact they turned the rally hall into chaos by firing tear gas before the opening of the NKDP rally.

[Ko] That is true. Even though the Chon Tu-hwan group is babbling about left-leaning radical students or off-stage forces, the incident was a row kicked up by a mobile unit dispatched by the group. The incident had nothing to with the righteous struggle of patriotic students. The Chon Tu-hwan group dashed into the Inchon City Hall, where the rally to form the Inchon chapter of the NKDP committee to move ahead with constitutional revision was scheduled to open, and blocked the rally from being held while kicking up rackets. Also, the mobile unit members of the government and the ruling party, who disguised themselves as students, created a din, clamoring about the establishment of the liberated Inchon district, a class revolution, or the Soviet spirit. In a word, the Inchon incident this time was not caused by the racket of radical left-leaning students or off-stage organizations. It was another political maneuver of intrigue which the Chon Tu-hwan group framed in a premeditated and organized manner to frustrate the signature campaign to push ahead with constitutional revision.

This notwithstanding, the Chon Tu-hwan group announced the result of so-called interim investigation into the Inchon incident and distorted the truth, talking as if the incident had been caused by so-called radical left-leaning and off-stage organizations. The sinister purpose of this maneuver is to block the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle, which is growing and expanding with each passing day in this land, and split and fragment the fighting ranks of the youths, students, and masses of all walks of life.

[Kim] Whenever the antigovernment struggle has been strengthened and the Chon Tu-hwan group has been driven into a predicament, the group has resorted to all means and methods to disunite and fragment the inner circles of the democratic and patriotic forces. This is a stereotypical method employed by the group.

[Ko] That is correct. Having judged that it cannot deal with the fierce anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle of our people with suppression, the Chon Tu-hwan group is perpetrating the despicable trick of isolating and alienating the fighting forces from each other. It is employing the tactic of alienating students from the people, students from students, and students from the opposition party and the democratic off-stage forces and of defeating them one by one.

To give recent factual examples, a memorial service to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the Kwangju democratic mass resistance was held at the Mangwol-dong cemetery, Kwangju, on 18 May. On that day, the Chon Tu-hwan group infiltrated its 100-man mobile unit into the ranks of students and made the unit kick up rackets and babbled as if this were an act of students. This is matchlessly despicable. For this reason, Yang Sun-chik, vice president of the NKDP, denounced the government for deliberately instigating rascals to hinder the memorial service of some 500 bereaved family members of victims, and protested against this, saying that this incident is similar to the Inchon incident.

In addition, the group, not content with the deployment of some 17,000 policemen in Masan, disguised numerous policemen and intelligence agents as students and workers and made them stir up rackets to frustrate a rally to form the Masan chapter for the signature campaign for constitutional revision on 10 May. It will take endless time to talk about the maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan group to disunite and alienate students from the masses of all walks of life.

[Kim] However hard the Chon Tu-hwan group may cling to maneuvers for fascist suppression, appeasement, deception, and intrigue, it will never cheat our people and thwart our people's righteous anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle. These despicable maneuvers will only further strengthen close solidarity and unity between democratic and patriotic forces. Our people will increase their alertness against the maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan group for appeasement and deception in firm unity with each other and more valiantly wage the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle for democratization.

HOME MINISTER'S REMARKS ON INCHON RIOT 'ABSURD'

SK270522 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 25 May 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] On 23 May, at a meeting with DJP lawmakers of the Home Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, Home Minister Chong Sok-mo utterred an absurd gibberish of fabrication and threat which cannot fool anyone. At the meeting with the DJP lawmakers, Home Minister Chong Sok-mo not only distorted and fabricated the Inchon incident of 3 May, but also threatened the patriotic students who rose up in the anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle in Inchon, branding their acts as leftist-leaning and procommunist acts while clamoring that he would completely mop up their struggle.

Earlier, 19 May, the Prosecutor's Office threatened to punish off-stage opposition organizations and student organization, branding them as radical leftist-leaning organizations and the students as rioters.

Speaking of the students who waged the anti-U.S. struggle against dictatorship in Inchon on 3 May, they are patriots who turned out to the streets for the struggle for national sovereignty and democracy and against U.S. aggression, its intervention in our domestic affairs, and the Chon Tu-hwan ring's dictatorial politics.

The resistance against the oppressors at home and abroad is an expression of the independence consciousness of those who treasure national dignity, sovereignty, human rights, and civil rights. In expressing their just will, the students had no other way but to turn out to the streets to appeal their will to the people. This notwithstanding, how did the Chon Tu-hwan ring respond to this just demand of the students?

The Chon Tu-hwan ring barbarously suppressed the students' appeal with the mobilization of over 2,000 police troops. Futhermore, the Chon Tu-hwan ring mobilized some 2,000 DJP-dispatched gangsters who disguised themselves as students or Inchon citizens and had them not only occupy the site of the NKDP-sponsored rally held to form its Inchon branch for the campaign for constitutional revision, but also stir up a disturbance there. It went so far as to perpetrate such a dirty trick of having these gangsters stir up a disturbance in the rally site, shouting such slogans as "Establishment of liberation district," "Soviet spirit," and "Class revolution."

The students' struggle in Inchon is precisely a sacred struggle to build a new independent and democratic society on this land. Therefore, the Chon Tu-hwan ring should not only admit its crime of having suspended the opposition party's meeting to form its Inchon branch for the signature collection campaign for constitutional revision and having suppressed the students in Inchon, but also apologize for it before the people. However, instead of apologizing for this, the Chon Tu-hwan ring is trying to punish students and opposition figures, branding them as leftist elements or procummunist elements. This is indeed an intolerable act of running counter to democracy and the masses.

Such an act by the Chon Tu-hwan ring is aimed at inventing an excuse for the suppression of campuses, at blocking the students' anti-U.S. struggle against dictatorship, at isolating the student movement from the people, and, thus, at maintaining the declining colonial rule.

Fascist repression cannot be means to bring a crisis under control. This is a clear fact of history. This can be vividly shown by the recent expulsion of Marcos from the Philippines and the fate of Duvalier of Haiti. The Chon Tu-hwan ring should immediately stop the suppression of campuses and unconditionally release the illegally arrested and imprisoned patriotic students and opposition personages. Our masses will never tolerate the Chon Tu-hwan ring's crime committed in the Inchon incident and will more vigorously struggle holding aloft the banner of the anti-U.S. and anti-Chon Tu-hwan struggle.

YUGOSLOVIA REAFFIRMS OLYMPIC COHOSTING STAND

SK240431 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA) -- Aleksandar Stanic, official spokesman for the Yugoslav Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, reaffirmed the stand of Yugoslavia toward the DPRK's Olympics cohosting proposal, at a press conference on May 22, according to a TANJUG report.

He said: Yugoslavia has from the first supported the proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that Pyongyang and Seoul organise jointly the Summer Olympic Games in 1988. Joint organisations would contribute to the reduction of tensions and to the creation of conditions for the peaceful reunification of the country and the preservation of peace and security in the region.

1986-87 WORKING PLAN SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

SK280434 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Pyongyang May 28 (KCNA) -- The 1986-87 working and cooperation plan between the Korea-Bulgaria Friendship Association and the Bulgaria-Korea Friendship Association was signed in Pyongyang on May 27. Present at the signing ceremony on our side were 0 Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Korea-Bulgaria Friendship Association, and officials concerned and on the opposite side were the delegation of the Bullaria-Korea Friendship Association headed by Ivan Solakov, vice-minister of national education and vice-chairman of the Bulgaria-Korea Friendship Association, and Vasil Khubchev, Bulgarian ambassador to Korea.

COOPERATION PLAN SIGNED WITH MONGOLIA FOR 1986

SK280438 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Pyongyang May 28 (KCNA) -- The 1986 plan for cooperation between the foreign ministries of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Mongolian People's Republic was signed in Pyongyang on May 26. Present at the signing ceremony were Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kang Sok-chu and Mongolian Ambassador to Korea Perenlein Urjinlkhundev.

KAPITSA VIEWS FILM ON KIM IL-SONG'S USSR VISIT

SK280431 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0408 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 26 (KCNA) -- Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union, on May 26 arranged a film show and a cocktail party on the occasion of the second anniversary of the official goodwill visit to the Soviet Union by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Invited there were Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa, a vice-minister of fisheries and leading personnel of the party and power bodies, army, social organizations and the press of the Soviet Union. The Korean documentary film "The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song arrived in the Homeland After Paying an Official Goodwill Visit to the Soviet Union and European Socialist Countries" was screened at the film show. It was followed by a cocktail party.

POST-TELECOMMUNICATIONS, ACADEMY GROUPS TO USSR

SK241054 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA) -- A Korean post and telecommuniations delegation headed by Kim Yong-chae, minister of post and telecommunications, and a delegation of the Korean Academy of Social Sciences led by Kim Hwa-chong, its vice-president, left Pyongyang on May 24 by air for a visit to the Soviet Union.

NKDP LAWMAKERS CHASTISE REAGAN ON U.S. ROK POLICY

SK280122 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 May 86 p 4

[From the "Press Pocket" Column]

[Text] A group of Assemblymen of the major opposition New Korea Democratic Party has sent a letter to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, criticizing the U.S. policy towards Korea and warning of the rapidly growing anti-Americanism here. In the letter dated May 22, Rep. Ho Kyong-ku said that the remarks by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz "not only shocked the opposition forces in this country into a temporary demoralization but also aroused among Koreans a burning resentment towards your administration." It was written by Ho and co-signed by 31 other NDP lawmakers. The letter was made public yesterday.

Ho maintained, "By dangling this and that possibility at times of convenience, showing favor and support for the retrogressive trends in Korea, the United States has opened the way for its estrangement from the general Korean public." Ho stressed that such an attitude in America "has become the very source of anti-Americanism and it is ironic enough that the United States has sown its own seeds for the flourishment of anti-Americanism in Korean society." "Though anti-American feeling at the present stage has a limited number of followers and remains in a restricted domain of our society," he warned, "there is an ample possibility that it will spread more widely depending on whether enlightened sectors of Korean society perceive the U.S. role here as desirable or undesirable." He went on to warn the May 21 student seizure of the USIS in Pusan "could be the beginning of the more unhappy political accident which might occur again at any time in the future."

Ho, however, asserted that the Koreans' expectation for a certain positive role by the United States in accomplishing a full-fledged democracy in Korea "should in no way be interpreted as an effort to invite foreign interference in domestic affairs."

LOCAL DRIVERS FOR U.S. 8TH ARMY HOLD SIT-IN

SK280116 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 May 86 p 8

[Text] Some 120 drivers of Arirang taxi company, operating for the exclusive use of servicemen of the eighth U.S. Army, staged a four-hour sit-in in its compounds in Yongsan yesterday in protest against the maltreatment of one of their colleagues by a U.S. military policeman. A military policeman of the eighth Army handcuffed Yi Chong-bo, an Arirang taxi driver, and took him to a gate post after he protested against the policeman for not permitting him to pass the main gate of the compounds, according to the protesters. The military policeman blocked Yi on the ground that he was not wearing his safety belt, they said. They broke up the sit-in at 3 p.m., after an Army officer made an apology.

JSP LEADER'S VISIT DIPLOMATIC NOT DOMESTIC ISSUE

SK251136 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 21 May 86 p 2

[Editorial: "Opposition Party Diplomacy and Diplomacy Transcending Parties -- Diplomatic Activities Should Not Be Carried Out in the Framework of the Domestic Political Situation"]

[Text] A delicate tension has developed between the NKDP, the party extending an invitation, and the government, which has refused to issue a visa, over a move to invite JSP Chairman Masashi Ishibashi to visit South Korea.

On 20 May, the NKDP, which has worked toward inviting Ishibashi to visit South Korea, sent party executive members to the office of the prime minister and strongly urged him to issue a visa so that Ishibashi could visit Seoul on 27 May. In response to this, Prime Minister No Sin-yong said: Under the circumstances in which the Japanese Socialist Party has demonstratively refused to recognize South Korea, the government cannot issue a visa to a person who represents this party.

When the government made such a policy clear, the NKDP reacted strongly against this by repeatedly holding meetings of party executive members and by adopting a resolution to secede from the South Korea-Japan Parliamentary Union, in which it has held membership with the spirit of transcending parties.

Having watched the development of the situation, we cannot understand why a matter concerning entry into the country by a foreign politician has created a turmoil. It is true that, although the JSP has shown signs of changing its line toward South Korea by issuing a new declaration in January of this year, it is still a left-wing party that has not changed its pro-North Korean stand, believing in Marxism-Leninism.

However, a 5-member delegation of the party led by Koichi Yamamoto, former party chief secretary, visited South Korea in November 1984. Since then, the party has shown signs of changing its policy toward South Korea. In short, the party is a foreign party, an eligible target of our diplomacy transcending parties — a positive diplomacy.

It is true that under circumstances in which delegations from the Soviet Union and Red China have frequently visited South Korea under the pretext of participating in international meetings, refusing to issue a visa to the leader of the JSP only creates the impression that this does not, somehow, comply with our positive diplomatic attitude of advocating cross-recognition of the North and South and simultaneous entry into the United Nations since the issuance of the 23 June diplomatic declaration.

Another thing that we cannot understand is the idea of issuing visas for invitations extended in the name of the National Assembly speaker and of refusing to issue visas when invitations are extended by the NKDP. Diplomacy is not something that is the exclusive domain of the government. A certain figure should not monopolize it. Factions and study groups within the Liberal Democratic Party, as well as opposition parties, in Japan have used, in various ways, such associations as the Japan-Korea Friendship Union and the Asia-Africa Study Association.

Under any circumstances, it is not desirable to view diplomacy within the framework of the domestic political situation. In particular, we should not behave disgracefully before foreigners in handling the matter of inviting them. We desire the broad-minded attitude of valuing national interest before considering party interest and policy.

We worry that the fledgling tradition of diplomacy transcending parties, which has precariously survived despite political confrontation at home, will likely be destroyed because of the recent incident. From the viewpoints of the people and the country, the identity of the extender of the invitation does not matter greatly. It is not important to whom the merit of diplomatic success goes. Because the issue is not a domestic question but an important diplomatic issue, the NKDP should have adequately consulted with the government beforehand. We hope that, no matter who may extend the invitation, the incident will provide an opportunity to help Chairman Ishibashi correct his prejudices against South Korea by visiting it.

ROK ENVOY ON IMPROVEMENT OF JAPANESE RELATIONS

SK280034 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 28 May 86 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP) -- If an East Asian era is to come, no nation or influence in the region should attempt to stand on a monopolistically superior position politically or economically, nor should such an attempt be allowed, Korean Ambassador to Japan Yi Kyu-ho said Monday. Speaking on the theme of "Korean-Japanese relations in an East Asian era" at a seminar, Yi said a monopolistically superior state or influence would lead to an exclusive interest, causing friction and tension with other countries within the region. That would not be in line with coexistence, coprosperity and stability in East Asia.

If Korea and Japan are to materialize long-term and basic real cooperation, he said, they should carry on market-opening and technological transfer in concrete forms for the expansion of free trade, with economic stress on mutual complementation as well as on competitiveness. In addition, they should construct steady relations in various fields, based on a perception that stability on the Korean peninsula is directly linked not only to that of Northeast Asia but also to that of East Asia, and prosperity in Korea concerns prosperity in Japan. Political and military adventurism in particular should be rejected and deterred as a common foe, he stressed.

The ambassador said the two countries will be assured of achieving the goals they are pursuing in concert when they develop and consolidate genuine cooperative relations to seek common prosperity. They should continue to make common efforts to remove impediments weakening their relations such as differences in mutual perception of the two peoples, chronic economic friction and the status of Koreans residing in Japan, he said.

INDONESIAN LNG IMPORT CONTRACT MAY BE REVOKED

SK280412 Seoul YONHAP in English 0239 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Seoul, May 28 (YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government is considering revoking a contract for the importation of Indonesian Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) unless Indonesia reduces the price of the gas to the spot market level, Energy and Resources Ministry officials said Wednesday. The ministry will delay plans to import 57,000 tons of Indonesian LNG on a trial basis in June until after a settlement is reached in ongoing negotiations between Korean and Indonesian officials, according to the ministry. The ministry officials said that the ministry will send a negotiating team to Indonesia in a final effort to reach a compromise. If its request is not accepted, the officials said, the ministry will cancel the contract and change its source for the importation of LNG to either Australia or Malaysia.

In the wake of the drastic decline in international crude oil prices, which serve as the basis for the price of imported LNG, the Energy and Resources Ministry has been negotiating with Indonesia's state-run petroleum company, Pertamina, to improve the terms of a 20-year contract that the two sides signed in 1983. Under the contract, the South Korean Government will import two million tons of Indonesian LNG per year, beginning in December 1986. Under the original contract, the LNG import price was linked to the Indonesian Government's selling price (GSP) for crude oil, which was 27 U.S. dollars per barrel when the contract was signed. The GSP, however, is no longer applicable, due to the plunge in international crude oil prices.

Since the negotiations began early this month, the Indonesian side has suggested 20 dollars per barrel as the base crude oil price for determining the LNG import price, while the Korean side has demanded that the base price coincide with the spot market price, which ranges from 12 to 13 dollars per barrel, the officials said.

Even if the Korea loses a law suit that could be filed by the Indonesian side with the International Court of Justice and is required to pay penalties for abrogating the agreement, the amount of the penalties will be much less than the expected loss from the importation of LNG at the price suggested by Indonesia.

Experts said that the Korea electric power corp., which is supposed to consume 85 percent of the Indonesian LNG, will have to spend about 90 million dollars more a year than it would spend on Bunker C oil if the government imports the Indonesian LNG at the base price proposed by Indonesia.

A government plan to substitute the LNG for liquefied petroleum gas for its urban piped gas service will also be set back considerably if the negotiations fail to result in a reduction in the LNG import price to the level proposed by the government, they added.

A number of countries have offered the Korean Government prices far lower than the price suggested by Indonesia, according to Energy and Resources Ministry officials. Under its long-term energy supply plan, the ministry is constructing a huge LNG terminal near Seoul and is laying pipes for gas service in central Korea. The ministry has also reduced tariffs and has provided financial support in order to lower the domestic LNG price.

DJP MEMBER DOES 'NOT PRECLUDE' DIRECT ELECTION

SK250318 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 25 May 86 p l

[Text] Seoul -- AFP/YONHAP -- Hyon Hong-chu, a DJP assemblyman and member of a special committee formed at the National Assembly to study constitutional revision, asserted that he views the recent antigovernment demonstrations by students and the opposition party as a form of political development and that they are testimony to the fact that the Korean Government is not a military dictatorship.

In a press conference with AFP on 24 May, lawmaker Hyon said: Such a phenomenon indicates that Korean society has matured. Had such a phenomenon happened 20 years ago, it would have led to a major crisis. He said that the present situation "Is, basically, very stable" and that Korea is capable of achieving democracy.

Noting that he was speaking only as a common member of the special committee at the National Assembly formed for the purpose of revising the Constitution, lawmaker Hyon, who is rather active in the work of revising the Constitution, said: We are not against anything at all. We do not preclude a direct presidential election system. However, lawmaker Hyon, who called himself a pragmatist, said that he is doubtful about whether or not Korea can attain a completely Western-style democracy within 2 years. Implying that democratization has certain limits, he said: There can be some restrictions in what we can do about encouraging democratization.

DJP OFFICERS BLAME KIMS FOR CANCELLED SESSIONS

SK250048 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 May 86 p 4

[From the "Press Pocket" column]

[Text] Officers of the ruling DJP yesterday blamed Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam for the aborted sessions of the House Home Affairs Committee which were scheduled for Thursday and Friday.

The House Committee was to investigate violent demonstrations in Inchon on May 3 which foiled the opposition NDP's rally to form a local center for the constitutional revision movement.

DJP spokesman Shim Myong-po said, "Now, the NDP should clarify its attitude, as a political party, on the radical left-leaning forces, whether they are their ally or enemy." Unless the NDP settles the conflict (between the two Kims) over the leadership of the party, it is doubtful whether institutional politics can have meaningful dialogues, Shim said.

Rep. Kang Yong-sik, an aide to the DJP chairman, said "Kim Tae-chung is held as a hostage of the dissident forces and Kim Yong-sam as a hostage of Kim Tae-chung," referring to relations between the NDP and dissident forces. He went on, "I think that the NDP is at a crossroads, to remain as a conservative party or to reflect the calls of those radical reformist forces in the party platform." He urged the NDP to draw a clear line in its relations with the radical forces.

KIM YONG-SAM 'MISQUOTED' ON REVISION COMMITTEE

SK270035 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 May 86 p 1

[Text] Opposition leader Kim Yong-sam said yesterday that he was "misquoted" by a Japanese newspaper to the effect that he would comply with the ruling party's request to form an ad hoc parliamentary committee on the Constitution "without any conditions." Refuting a Tokyo Shimbun article printed on Sunday, Kim said there was a misunderstanding because of the language problem. The interview was conducted in Korean.

The newspaper reported that Kim, who is an adivsor to the New Korea Democratic Party, "does not oppose the formation of the special House panel together with the ruling Democratic Justice Party."

Kim maintained that some of his remarks were omitted so that he sounded like he favored the NDP's joining the parliamentary committee without prerequisites. "I present the condition that the government and the ruling party should reveal, in clearer language, its willingness to revise the constitution," he explained. He went on, "In particular, the period of the committee's activities should be decided on in advance."

He maintained that the ad hoc parliamentary committee, if formed, must work out a revision draft of the Constitution within this year, including the method of presidential election in 1987. He also demanded that the government present an explicit "timetable for democratization" and release arrested "fighters for democracy" to create an atmosphere of trust.

In the atricle, Kim was also quoted as saying that rallies in provincial cities for the constitutional amendment movement would be discontinued if the committee gets down to the business of writing a constitutional revision.

KIMS INDICATE CHANGE IN NKDP REVISION STAND

SK270852 Seoul YONHAP in English 0833 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Seoul, May 28 (YONHAP) -- South Korea's two most prominent dissidents Tuesday agreed that the leading oposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) should play a role in a planned special National Assembly committee on constitutional revision. Kim Yong-sam, the NKDP's permanent adviser, and Kim Tae-chung, co-chairman of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, posted three preconditions for the NKDP's participation in the committee, including a call for the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) to drop its opposition to the establishment of a direct presidential electional system.

The two Kims, who are vital leaders of the NKDP, also demanded that the constitutional committee conclude its activities before the National Assembly opens its annual regular session in September and that those who have been arrested for anti-government activities be released before the inauguration of the committee.

After meeting with Kim Yong-sam in his home, Kim Tae-chung said,, "We earlier maintained that the formation of the special committee on the constitution is meaningless as long as the constitutional amendment for the creation of a direct presidential election system is not guaranteed by the end of 1986, but we have made some changes in our past agreements, in view of recent changes in the political situation." Kim said that the granting of amnesty and the reinstatement of political outcasts, including himself, should first be discussed when the special committee is formed, indicating a clear-cut change from his previous position linking the issue with the convocation of a special National Assembly plenary session or the formation of a special committee on constitutional revision.

The two Kims agreed, howevoer, to continue to hold scheduled rallies to coincide with the opening of provincial chapters to promote the NKDP's petition campaign for constitutional revision.

DJP TO SUBMIT REVISION BILL BY REGULAR SESSION

SK280105 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 May 86 p 1

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party plans to have a revision bill of the current Constitution get through the National Assembly within this year, it was learned yesterday. To this end, the party will submit its own draft amendment to the Asembly before the opening of this year's regular session on Sept. 20, a party source said. The party will hold a Central Executive Council meeting this morning to discuss the party's position on the timetable for constitutional revision, he said. The Central Executive Council is the main decision-making organ of the party, following the national convention and the Central Committee.

The source said that the party's plan is "to 'materialize' the announcement of President Chon Tu-hwan on April 30 that he will not oppose the revision of the basic law during his term of office (ending March 2, 1988)." He also said that the DJP would seek to find a mutually acceptable compromise on the revision bill with the opposition camp through the medium of the projected special House revision committee. The DJDP has already inaugurated its own special committee, composed of 20 lawmakers, to work out a draft amendment.

The committee, headed by former speaker Chae Mun-sik, is studying the parliamentary cabinet system, presidential government system and double executive system as the power structure of the new basic law. Many party lawmakers favor the parliamentary cabinet system. However, the party will "draw a picture on a blank paper," taking into consideration partisan relations, the source said. The party will call a general session of the Central Committee next month to confirm the "revision of the basic law during the president's term of office" as the party's official policy.

NKDP ADVISED TO PREPARE TO 'SEIZE'POWER

SK271253 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 26 May 86 p 2

[Editorial: "NKDP's Today and Its Tomorrow -- It Should Exercise Self-Examination To Become a Competent Party To Seize Power"]

[Text] At least until the day when the NKDP president could not enter the headquarters of his party and had to call a meeting of the leaders of his party in a tea room across the street because of the blockade by combat police troops, it was believed that the aggravation of the political situation was entirely due to the stiffness of the government and ruling party. However, about 2 months after the incident, we hear growing voices that the opposition party is partly responsible for the prevailing political situation.

Forming a special National Asembly constitutional committee is delayed, and a meeting of the National Assembly Home Affairs Committee has not been held as scheduled. This is evidence. The people who supported the weak when it was being suppressed by power have now become dubious of the opposition party. This is, it can be said, because the role and responsibilities of the opposition party have been enhanced. The NKDP has frustrated the stance to detain and investigate participants in the signature campaign for constitutional amendment, and has made it possible to discuss constitutional amendment during the present presidential term. Of course, this achievement must not be underestimated.

However, at this juncture, to be wise, the NKDP should look back on the path it has traversed, should check its present stand, and should plan its future. In this respect, we think that now is the time for the NKDP to ponder how it will utilize the present political situation in which it has become possible to revise the Constitution, and how it will strengthen its posture as a party to take power. Even though the situation has improved a little, it must not show a sign of internal friction nor harbor a groundless illusion of power.

During the course in which the meeting of the National Assembly Home Affairs Committee to handle the Inchon incident was not held as scheduled, we think that the people have become disappointed with the NKDP's present appearance. We think that the NKDP was mindful of the circles of the movement and other dissident forces. However, it aborted the convocation of the Home Affairs Committee meeting simply on the pretext of the question of evidence. This is hardly understanble. How will the NKDP maintain its relations with the radical forces which demand reform? It can be said that the NKDP is standing at a crossroad. This is because the NKDP, as a self-claimed conservative party, cannot embrace them but will have to absorb and accommodate their political demands in any way. Actually, this is a common task of the ruling and opposition parties.

The NKDP must now build up its capabilities to seize power not by gaining something out of the mistakes by the government and ruling party but by nourishing its own strength. It is true that our ruling and opposition parties have pursued reactionary politics against one another in order to gain something out of the mistakes by the opposite side.

The opposition party has grown as a result of the government's reckless suppression and the ruling party has exploited the internal friction of the opposition party and its weak points as an excuse to maintain power.

However, awhile approaching the 21st century, the politics of the new era must not remain in such an old frame. Politicians must not pander for temporary popularity but broaden the base of people's support with a self-conscious political line and invariable policy. In this respect, now is a time of political turbulence, and is a time during which politics should become mature.

This is precisely the reason why we say that the NKDP is standing at a crossroad of choice. We would like to urge the NKDP, which has waged an arduous off-stage struggle for constitutional amendment, to have a time for calm self-examination.

MINISTER WARNS ON ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW SYSTEM

SK231118 Seoul YONHAP in English 1111 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Taegu, Korea, May 23 (YONHAP) -- Culture-Information Minister Yi Won-hong warned Friday against the emergence of a force in Korea trying to overthrow the current ruling system by subversive, undemocratic and violent means. The eventual goal of that force out to foment social chaos and popular unrest under the guise of promoting pluralism along with democracy is to set up a leftist ruling system, Yi said. The minister made the warning in a speech at an annual national festival of provincial dramas staged at the Taegu municipal hall.

Though pluralism in political and social sectors is a natural development in a free democratic system, scuttling the basic framework of the system amounts to an anti-national, anti-social activity negating society's reason for being, he said. In the speech read by Vice Culture-Information Minister Kim Yun-hwan, Yi also said radical leftist force has penetrated Korean cultural and artistic circles as a tool of dissident movement, focusing more on the dark side than on the bright side inherent in a hi-tech society.

PRESS SHOULD REPRESENT MIDDLE CLASS FOR DEMOCRACY

SK241228 Seoul YONHAP in English 1214 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Sogwipo, Korea, May 24 (YONHAP) -- Culture and Information Minister Yi Won-hong said Saturday the Korean press should assume the function of uniting and integrating individuals and society in general in a way compatible with national ideas for the promotion of democracy in the country. Yi also called on the media and the intellectuals to exert themselves to ease social tensions and political conflicts for the construction with thier government of a democratic society.

An adequate functioning of democracy, one that has eluded Korea since its liberation in 1945 from the Japanese rule, he said, requires interest groups, political parties and the press to be well organized and institionalized as the vehicles of democracy. "Accordingly, to accommodate the ideas of democracy to realities, it is most important to re-establish the relationship between social mechanism and its vehicles," the minister spoke during a debate here of senior Korean journalists.

In a speech at the forum organized by the Korea Newspaper Editors' Association, Yi also warned against the popular aspiration for democracy being exploited by the forces trying to grab power or achieve a leftist revolution. He said the issue of democracy in Korea should be recognized as a phase of social transformation sure to emerge as a process of historical development.

To promote democratization, Yi went on. It would be essential for the press to channelize the voice of the middle class, which has been somewhat neglected, to give it a greater say, rather than to provide an outlet for "fragmentary arguments in some quarters of our society." In this connection, the media as the balancer of a genuine democratization should assume the role of invigorating the middle class and the wisdom and capabilities of the intellectuals for that cause, the minister said.

HOME MINISTER: PRO-COMMUNISTS PLANNED INCHON RIOT

SK240023 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 May 86 p 1

[Text] Home Minister Chong Sok-mo revealed yesterday that the Inchon riot was engineered by the forces sympathizing with the Communists under their premeditated scheme to topple the government through demonstrations. In a meeting between the ruling Democratic Justice Party lawmakers, assigned to the Home affairs Committee of the National Assembly, and government officials, Chong said the pro-Communist forces sought the creation of a popular uprising through the May 3 Inchon riot. Chong specifically pointed to the "Minmintu," a militant student group, and the United Mass Movement for Democracy and Unification and other dissident groups under its banner as the leading forces in igniting the Inchon riot.

In a separate report, Kang Min-chang, director general of the National Police, revealed that police will forcibly break up the demonstrators outside the hall where the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NDP) is staging constitutional amendment rallies. Kang said that police have not dispersed the demonstrators outside the rally hall for reasons of protecting the political party's activities. The opposition party's next rally is scheduled for May 31 in Chonju.

The joint administration-party meeting was unexpectedly held after the rupture in the bipartisan negotiations for the opening of the Home Affairs Committee of the National Assembly.

The nation's top police official gave accounts refuting the 24-point announcement by the NDP, in which it claimed the Inchon riot was premeditated by the government.

DJP OPPOSES CALLING REV. MUN TO TESTIFY ON INCHON

SK240052 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 May 86 p 1

[Text] The tug-of-war over who should testify before the Home Affairs Committee about the riot in Inchon added fuel to partisan strains, foiling the panel meeting for the second day in a row yesterday. The confrontation between the ruling Democratic Justice Party and the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party is sure to abort the session of two other panels slated for next week. They are Education-Information, Legislation-Judiciary Committees.

The partisan controversy over the summoning of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, a dissident leader arrested yesterday, is expected to further freeze the two parties' relations which are now pitted against each other over the constitutional amendment issue. The NDP resolved in a meeting of its key officers to boycott the three House panel sessions unless Rev. Mun is accepted as a witness to give testimony at the session as demanded by the party.

It alleged that the ruling party has refused to let Mun speak to the panel for fear that the government authorities' announcement about the incident may be proved to be false. The government had announced that the "Mintongnyon," a militant dissidents group led by Mun, masterminded the riot, thus obstructing the NDP's rally to promote constitutional revision. Yet, the DJP never moved an inch from its position that "criminal suspects now under investigation cannot stand as witness before the House."

Following ruptures in rounds of negotiations, the JDP tried to open the panel unilaterally in absence of opposition lawmakers at 5 p.m. But, NDP members occupied the conference room of the panel to deter the opening of the session by the DJP, which later gave up its attempt.

Instead, the JDP members held a meeting at the party lawmakers' office with Home Minister Chong Sok-mo and other government officials concerned to discuss the incident.

Rep Yi Se-ki, floor leader, argued, "I understand that the NDP well knows that those involved in criminal cases cannot be accepted as witnesses under a provision of the constitution." "Such a demand of the NDP proves that the party has no intention to open the Home Affairs Committee," he said.

The Home Affairs Committee was originally scheduled to hold meetings for two days and then to form a subcommittee to investigate the Inchon riot. The parties held rounds of negotiations to narrow differences, but no compromise term was found.

Meanwhile, a leading officer of the JDP analyzed that the NDP's unreasonable offensives against the ruling party are a result of a feud among the party's factions. He expressed worry over possible escalation of the factional strife aimed at seizing hegemony in the party to a serious confusion of political situations in the days ahead.

NKDP MEMBERS VISIT PUSAN USIS FOR INVESTIGATION

SK240112 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 May 86 p 8

[Text] Pusan (YONHAP) -- Three opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) members visited the USIS building here yeserday to find facts about the intrusion into the U.S. facility by 21 college students Wednesday. The opposition fact-finding team was led by Rep. So Sok-chae. All of the 21 students, including 16 from Seoul National University and five from Korea University, were arrested with court warrants late Thursday evening.

Rep. So expressed regrets the USIS side "hastily called police intervention" when it should have been prudent. The building also houses the U.S. Consulate. Consul Kenneth Quinones was quoted as saying the students seemed to be engaged in a destruction of furniture and did not want dialogue. The consul also said that when he reported the intrusion to Seoul over telephone, David F. Lambertson, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy, told him to evacuate all staff members and request police assistance.

Quinones was also quoted as telling the NKDP visitors that he ordered the staff members to evacuate to safety after observing the students' acts of destroying furniture through three video cameras installed in his office.

Don Q. Washington, the Pusan USIS director, showed to the opposition party members 26 pictures on the scenes of damages. The NKDP members emphasized that "The USIS side should try to learn the reason why students chant anti-American slogans" and "The U.S. side should reflect on its unilateral support of the incumbent Korean government."

The U.S. consul was quoted as replying that violence should be halted and "democracy should be achieved through dialogue and compromise."

DIFFERENCES IN U.S. REACTION TO RADICALS NOTED

SK231242 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 22 May 86 p l

[From the column "Gibberish"]

[Excerpts] The name of the American Cultural Center, which came into being in 1948 in major cities of our country, was the U.S. Information Service. Since the incident of arson at the American Cultural Center in Kwangju in December 1980, American Cultural Centers in the following cities, in chronological order, have become the targets of occupation and arson: Pusan, Kwangju, Taegu and Seoul. The latest incident in Pusan is the sixth. We can find a great difference between the incident at the American Cultural Center in Seoul in May last year, when the students voluntarily disbanded their sit-in after 72 hours, and the recent incident that took place in Pusan, in which the students were arrested by he police after 1 hour. What we should point out first is the students' attitude reflected in their slogans.

In a memo exchanged with reporters during the incident in Seoul, the students asked the reporter to point out that their act was not "anti-U.S." This time, however, voices saying trat "the U.S. imperialists must withdraw!" resounded from the portable speaker.

Next, we should point to the U.S. attitude in coping with the incident. During the incident in Seoul, the U.S. side persistently attempted to have dialogue with students, and Ambassador Walker sent a letter to them. In addition, the White House authorities revealed that "the quiet situation was fortunate, and they would seek a peaceful settlement." This time, however, the U.S. side clearly denounced the violence of the students and requested the entry of the police.

The final difference is that the prime movers of the incident in Seoul were the students of the Federation of Student Associations and the Sammintu, while those in Pusan were from Chamintu and Minmintu. We are concerned at the radical students, who are different from those only 1 year ago, and at the changes in the United States.

POLICE ALERT TO 'MASS SUICIDE' POSSIBILITY

SK250113 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 May 86 p 8

[Text] The National Police Headquarters has stepped up patrol activities in the crowded downtown areas of big cities, including Seoul, against the possibility that some "extremist" student [may] stage street demonstrations or suicide attempts.

The police action followed the formal arrest of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan Thursday on suspicion of agitating violent student activism.

It was learned that Rev. Mun once told in an interview with a foreign wire service that there were 49 candidates who were ready to commit suicide for the cause of democracy among his followers.

The police are on the special alert according to a tip that some 10 to 15 students in a group may attempt to seize certain targets or to commit a mass suicide by setting themselves on fire. In a preventive measure, the Seoul Metropolitan Police Bureau has increased the number of plainclothesmen posted at places where students are likely to choose to stage demonstrations. They will gather informations concerning movements of activist students and confiscate such dangerous materials as gasoline bombs by checking suspects.

FORMER NKDP MEMBERS TO FORM NEW PARTY BEFORE SEPT

OW230521 Tokyo KYODO in English 0506 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Seoul, May 23 KYODO -- A group of 12 parliamentarians who have left the New Korean Democratic Party (NKDP) said Friday they will form a new political party before the next session of the National Assembly is convened in September. The new party will be the fourth-largest political party in the 276-member unicameral assembly, in which President Chon Tu-hwan's Democratic Justice Party has a majority.

The 12 men broke away from the No. 1 opposition party late last year, saying it was controlled by the two prominent dissidents -- Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam -- who were not party members at the time. Kim Yong-sam later became an adviser to the NKDP but Kim Tae-chung is still banned from political activities because he was convicted of inciting the 1980 uprising against the government.

TWO SOCIALIST PARTIES MERGE TO FORM NEW PARTH

SK280108 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 May 86 p l

[Text] The two Socialist parties were merged yesterday. The party was named the Socialist Democratic Party. The merger was announced jointly by the Socialist Democratic Party led by Kim Chol and the New Socialist Party led by Kwon Tae-pok. Kim Chol was chosen as chairman of the new party and Kwon and Pak In-mok as vice chairman.

FOREIGN JOURNALISTS REVIEW BORDER SITUATION

BK251306 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1112 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Poipet, Northwestern Kampuchea, SPK May [No date as received] -- For the first time a large group of foreign journalists and T.V. reporters have been provided with an opportunity to take a close look of this side of the Kampuchean-Thai border and thus see for themselves that the security of the country is good, not only in the interior but in far-flung areas as well.

The Kampuchean people are living in tranquility and happiness, said Daniel Roussel during the trip. The view was shared by three Japanese journalists, who said that where they were there was peace and calmness.

Daniel is currently in Kampuchea to cover the fifth partial withdrawal of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army, together with 30 correspondents of C.B.S. Visnew, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, ASAHI SHIMBUN, KYODO, AKAHATA, N.D.N., A.F.P., BERNAMA, PRENSA LATINA, TASS, NOVASTI, Soviet T.V., N.B.C., A.B.C., A.D.N., TTV and N.T.V. early in the morning of Sunday the group flew on a propeller-driven Antonov-24 to the town of Siem Reap, where the world-famous Angkor temple is located. There they changed into three helicopters and hop-frogged west, to Nimit, formerly a thriving population area on Highway 5 and a ghost village since the time of Pol Pot. Then, a 30 minutes journey by truck took them to Poipet, a border post manned by a unit of the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces of Kampuchea and facing Thailand's Aranyaprathet District.

The trip by air lasted 90 minute, 30 of which over Tonle Sap (Great Lake), the largest body of fresh water in the whole of Indochina. The lake was not in (?stage) yet, but already it appeared to be much bigger than its usual superficies of 3,000 square kilometres, or about half the size of Victoria Lake in Africa (the area may more than treble at the peak of the monsoon). The fishing season is almost over, and the idle fishing boats looked like thousands of tiny leaves scattered on the wind-tossed waters.

The same air of tranquility was noticeable throughout the landward trip, stretches of land, freshly upturned for the main rice crop, were dotted with patches of green --hamlets with their orchards and sugar palms.

At the border, however, tension remains to be the dominant note. Chinese-backed Khmer reactionaries beaten to smithereens by Kampuchean and Vietnamese forces in the 1984-85 dry season are still lurking in Thai territory waiting for a chance to rear their head again.

The Bangkok authorities, hell-bent on maintaining a trouble spot to suit the book of their patrons in Beijing and Wasington, are doing every thing to oppose the rebirth of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, from supporting the Khmer reactionaries in their sabotage to making direct provocations with their armed forces. Not a day goes by without Kampuchea's air space and territorial waters being violated by Thailand. Poipet, like other Kampuchean outposts, has been frequently spied on by Thai aircraft.

Early that morning, the commander of the port told the reporters, shots were fired from across the border. Early last week, from the 19th to the 23rd, a joint U.S.-Thai manoeuvre codenamed "Logex-29" was staged at the Thai naval base at Sattahip. Next month, another joint exercise involving 13,000 American and Thai troops will be conducted in areas close to Kampuchea.

However, all these hostile schemes and acts of international and regional reaction have failed to destabilize the situation in Kampuchea. Far from deterring the Kampuchean people, they only prompt them to increase their determination to build and defend their country. During the one hour and a half at Poipet the journalists were shown a portion of a big wall being erected by thousands of soldiers and volunteer workers to help protect Kampuchea's territory. This determination is shown by all the men guarding Poipet.

We will live up to the trust of the people and the country, said Som Sorhari, 32, commander of the garrison.

DEPARTING SRV UNITS VISIT SITES IN PHNOM PENH

BK261412 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] On the afternoon of 26 May, a delegation of the 98th Divisional Group of the repatriating Vietnamese volunteer units led by Brigadier General (Truong Kinh Thong), commander of the 98th Division, visited Tuol Sleng museum of genocidal crimes, the former Royal Palace, and Cuu Long-Kolab Center.

At the Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocidal Crimes, the delegation expressed grief over the genocidal crimes committed against the Cambodian people by the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique, and clearly confirmed that such criminal acts of this genocidal clique would never be allowed to take place for the second time against the Cambodian people. At the museum of the former Royal Palace, the delegation toured the Khemarin Palace and the Emerald Buddha's Palace. On that occasion, the delegation admired these cultural treasures which are the heritages and outstanding feats of our forefathers and people.

At the Cuu Long-Kolab Center, representative of the center and the orphans expressed their gratitude for the good service and good ethics of the 98th Division, saying that they would never forget these good deeds which serve as a valuable model for all the orphans to follow. In his reply, a representative of the delegation expressed sympathy for the orphans whose parents were barbarously massacred by the genocidal clique. At the same time, the delegate exhorted orphans to train themselves well so as to succeed the revolutionary cause for the defense and construction of the fatherland toward prosperity.

DEFENSE MINISTRY TOASTS SRV VOLUNTEERS

BK270601 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The PRK Defense Mininstry organized a banquet at the "30 October" restaurant on the evening of 26 May to honor the delegation of the 98th Divisional Group of the repatriating Vietnamese Volunteer Army units. Attending this grand ceremony were, among others, Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of planning; female Comrade Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the party's Central Organization Commission; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions; and the comrade leaders of state institutions, cadres, combatants, and delegations of mass organization. Also present were Comrade Ngo Dien, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the PRK, and the comrade diplomatic envoys of Laos and the Soviet Union.

Speaking on the occassion, Comrade Bou Thang expressed profound gratitude to the cadres and combatants of the repatriating Vietnamese volunteer units. The comrade stressed: although all of you will be far apart from us, the militant solidarity between our two countries and our two Armed Forces of Cambodia and Vietnam will grow firmer and become more harmonious. At the same time, the comrade extended best regards and good wishes to the families, parents, and relatives of the Vietnamese Army volunteers for them to enjoy good health and greater victories.

In his reply, comrade Truong Minh Thong, commander of the 98th Division, expressed great joy and profound thanks to the party and government of the PRK for the warm reception which proves that the special militant solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam has been further strengthened. The comrade also spoke on the rapid growth and all-round progress made by the Cambodian revolution in the past more than 7 years. The comrade stressed that the militant solidarity between our two countries will grow firmer and that no reactionary force can every split it.

At 0715 on the morning of 27 May, the delegation on the repatriating Vietnamese Volunteer Army's 98th Division led by Brigadier General Truong Minh Thong laid wreaths at the monument of the fallen Cambodian heroes and the monument commemorating the fallen Vietnamese combatants in order to pay homage to the souls of the forefathers and the heroic Cambodian and Vietnamese combatants who have sacrificed their lives in the cause of liberating our nation, people, and class from the old and new colonialist yokes. The participants bowed their heads and stood in silence before a huge wreath decorated with a red-colored banner on which was written in gold letters: We pay homage to the Cambodian and Vietnamese combatants fallen in the cause of the revolution and socialism.

VIETNAMESE BUILD HELICOPTER BASE IN BATTAMBANG

BK230151 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 May 86 p 3

[Text] Prachin Buri -- Vietnamese troops have built a helicopter base in Battambang Province to back up ground operations against Khmer guerrillas, a source said yesterday. The base, near Route 5, east of Ban Nimit, has been built to help counter a 700-strong force of the three resistance factions and volunteers which his been operated deep inside Kampuchea. The source said the force had been harassing Vietnamese sent to Battambang, Prey Vieng, Kompong Thachhnang and Kompong Thom provinces to take over trading and fishery businesses. Some Vietnamese had fled to Phnom Penh, he said.

Meanwhile, a resistance source said about 2,000 troops from Vietnam's 5th, 75th and 59th Divisions and Heng Samrin's 6th Division have mounted a military exercise around Battambang. The source said armoured personal carriers, PT-76 light tanks and T-54 heavy tanks were involved in the May 20-27 exercise. The source said Vietnamese and Heng Samrin forces will move to within 10 kilometers of the Thai border opposite Prachin Buri on May 27.

PREM 'RESTING' IN SURINARI CAMP, RECEIVES GUESTS

BK280632 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon is still staying at the guest house of the 2d Army Support Command in Suranari Camp in Nakhon Ratchasima, resting on the advice of doctors due to the symptoms of a slight cold. However, he continues to perform his duties and has received some guests. A Public Relations Department official in Nakhon Ratchasima reported that at 0715 today Wutthichai Butsiphum, chairman of the Nakhon Ratchasima Provincial Council, led council members from 20 districts and 3 subdistricts — a total of 21 people — to call on the prime minister to wish him well. They left the residence at about 0910. Wutthichai said he and his colleagues called on the prime minister because they learned that he was not well but discovered from the visit that the cold from which the prime minister was suffering has improved a lot. However, the prime minister's physician has advised rest and some exercise for the prime minister.

Wutthichai said the prime minister told the visitors that provincial councillors are very important for the well being of the province and asked them to help care for the people. In particular, they were asked to help inform the people to elect good candidates. The prime minister also said he was proud of the successful agreement with the European Community on the export of tapioca because this will help tapioca growers. Nakhon Ratchasima is a major tapioca growing province.

Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun, answering questions from newsmen this morning at Governmet House about when the prime minister will return from Nakhon Ratchasima, said that he has no information at this time but maintains regular contact with the prime minister, who asks his aides to contact him whenever he wants to give instructions. Prachuap said the prime minister assigned him to chair the meeting of the joint public-private consultative committee meeting this noon.

CABINET ACKNOWLEDGES ANNOUNCEMENT ON ATHIT

BK271234 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 27 May 86

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister General Prachuap Suntharangkun presided over the cabinet meeting today. The cabinet acknowledged the announcement by the Prime Minister's Office on the royal decree appointing Gen Athit Kamlang-ek supreme commander; Gen Chutthai Saengthawip, deputy Army commander, as military inspector general, and Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Army chief of staff, as Army commander. The royal decreee is effective 27 May.

ATHIT PLEDGES TO COMPLY WITH ROYAL ORDER

BK271226 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek spoke to reporters during an interview at the Army Transportation Department's airport this afternoon about the royal command appointing General Chawalit Yongchaiyut as Army commander. He said that as a soldier he must comply with the order, and the appointment of the new Army commander will help lighten his duties. Beside, the new Army commander himself has been serving in the Army and he can work together with him.

ATHIT INTERVIEWED ON COMMAND CHANGES, OWN PLANS

BK271500 Bangkok Television Service in Thai 1300 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Former Army Commander General Athit has now returned from Nakhon Si Thammarat Province and arrived at the military airport aboard an Air Force plane this afternoon. He was greeted at the airport by senior military officers, such as Air Force Commander Air Chief Marshal Praphan Thupatemi, new Army Commander Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, and Thai and foreign reporters and cameramen. Gen Athit chatted with the people who came to greet him smilingly. He later granted an inerview to reporters. He said:

[Begin recording] [Athit] Be careful. I do not want to see a report that newsmen died in a stampede here.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you have [words indistinct]

[Athit] I have nothing to say. I learned about the Prime Minister's Office announcement this morning while I was still in my bedroom. An officer informed me about the royal decree appointing me as supreme commander, Gen Chawalit as Army commander, and Gen Chuthai as military inspector general. Soldiers must follow orders. We maintain that everyone must comply with royal decrees. I and my family are loyal to his majesty the king and all members of the royal families, since they have been very kind to me. I have been serving his majesty since I was a lieutenant. I and my family treasure the royal decree. We will comply with it. There is no problem in this regard. My successor himself has been serving in the Army. Everyone knew he would succeed me sooner or later. Since he has now become the Army commander, he can help strengthen our Army so that it can serve as the pillar of the country. Nothing is unusual. We must work together.

[Unidentified reporter] Normally the Army commander is not transferred during his tenure.

[Athit] I am still the supreme commander. Formerly, I concurrently served in the two positions; now I have someone to help me. This will make my work easier. This is good. Besides, the person who succeeded me is still serving in the Army. We have been working together.

[Unidentified reporter] You said in an interview on wisakhabucha day [22 May] that you would not run in the general election because you have heavy duties to do. Now your work is lighter. Will you...

[Athit -- interrupting] I have said that I will not run in the election. I will do as I have said. Although I have been relieved of my duty as Army commander, I am still serving as supreme commander and must be responsible for the country's peace and order. I have to look after the Army, Navy, and Air Force. What I have said, I meant. We are soldiers and must honor our words and be rational. I will, as I always do, act properly and make sure the country is safe. After I have done my job, I can rest. I have only 3 months left to do my duty. The new Army commander will help me do my work. This is good because we can help each other.

[Unidentified reporter] A political party announced that if it wins the general election, it will [words indistinct] you to be the prime minister. If it can form the new government, it will have you as the prime minister.

[Athit] That is what they think. If you talk to me you should ask me what I think. At this moment, I am only thinking about how I can do my best to maintain the country's peace and order becuase I am the supreme commander and internal peace-keeping director. I still have duties to do and must do my best. I cannot let what other people say or think bother me. People have different opinions. Meanwhile, I will do my best to serve the people and country. Nothing is more important than our country. We must help each other to maintain peace and order in the country. There should not be any problem. I went to inspect the digging of the canal this morning. Everything proceeded smoothly.

[Unidentified reporter] After the transfer incident...

[Athit -- interrupting] It is not an incident. Do not call it an incident.

[Unidentified reporter] Have you contacted the prime minister?

[Athit] I was in Nakhon Si Thammarat while the premier was in Korat. It is quite a distance. No, I did not contact him. As a matter of fact, this is nothing special or unusual. Soldiers can be transferred to any post at any time regardless of their rank.

[Unidentified reporter] No caretaker government in history ever ordered such a transfer.

[Athit] Do not think too much.

[Unidentified reporter] The transfer was made during the tenure.

[Athit] Not really. It is in the same fiscal year. We soldiers must not think too much. We must do our duty and follow orders so that the country will be stable. If you think too much you will have paranoia. The transfer produces the same result regardless of its timing.

PAPER DESCRIBES EVENTS BEHIND ATHIT DISMISSAL

BK280100 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 May 86 pp 1, 3

[By The Chongkhadikit]

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon dismissed General Athit Kamlang-ek as Army Commander-in-Chief and appointed Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut to the position yesterday. In a Royal Decree countersigned by Gen Prem as Defence Minister, Deputy Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chuthai Saengtawip was shunted to the powerless post of Inspector-General of the Armed Forces.

The announcement was broadcast over Radio Thailand at 7 a.m. as the Prime Minister sat out developments in Nakhon Ratchasima, where he had made his earlier decision not to extend Gen Athit's tenure for a second year. Gen Athit, who retains the post of Supreme Commander, congratulated Gen Chawalit on his appointment.

Gen Prem's decision to act before Gen Athit's term automatically expires on August 31 was seen as a move to stall increasing political and military pressure to appoint Gen Athit minister of defence, paving the way for his candidacy for the premiership.

Another reason was reportedly to put Gen Chawalit in position where he could prepare to take over his post. So far, it was understood, nothing had been done about transferring duties.

A factor considered significant in the decision was the efforts by Gen Athit's political supporters to topple the Government in Parliament over a policy bill, forcing the Prime Minister to resign. When the Prime Minister instead dissolved Parliament, the plan was to defeat pro-Prem parties in the general elections and manoeuvre Gen Athit's nomination to head a government. Arrangements had reportedly been made that if Gen Prem resigned over the rejection of the bill a certain former premier, who had resigned as the leader of a major political party, would become prime minister with Gen Athit taking the defence portfolio.

Amid these developments, Gen Athit dismissed rumours that certain military elements would stage a coup attempt before the July 27 election. As long as Gen Athit remained Army Commander-in-Chief, power-seeking politicians rallied around him in the hope of gaining governmental positions of influence, while the loyalties of military personnel appeared split between the head of the democratic government and their own leader.

Caught in the middle was Gen Chawalit, who had joined with then deputy Army commander Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan to suppress the September 9 abortive coup and who has been a solid supporter of the Prime Minister. He was reportedly asked by Gen Athit on "whose side" he stood. He said he was loyal to the Army, the nation and the Government, avoiding mention of personal loyalty.

Gen Chawalit reportedly worked hard to foster a compromise between Gen Prem and Gen Athit but tensions had gone beyond that stage. Despite the possibility of jeopardising his one and only change of becoming army commander-in-chief, he discussed with Gen Prem the desirability of appointing Gen Athit defence minister. At first, it was suggested that Gen Athit be offered the position of deputy defence minister but he turned it down. It was then proposed that if Gen Athit made a public statement of full support for the Government, he could be named defence minister.

A plan was set for Gen Prem and Gen Athit to finalise the matter at a royal function at Hua Hin but they were seated at different tables. When the party was over, Gen Athit had left. Gen Chawalit was unhappy he had failed to ease tensions.

Politicians believing they would capitalise on conflict between the country's then two most powerful personalities began moves with the obvious objective of projecting Gen Athit as a serious rival to Gen Prem for the post-election premiership. Even before Gen Athit's dismissal, the Democrats and the Social Action Party [SAP] faction loyal to Deputy Premier Sitthi Sawetsila and other pro-Prem parties were expected to gain a majority over the United Democratic Party alliance, a splinter from the SAP and other pro-Athit parties.

Following Gen Athit's dismissal, the pro-Prem strength in the new House of Representatives may increase. In this event, Chat Thai, which intends to remain neutral during the elections, may win enough seats to hold the balance.

A Democrat-dominated coalition will most probably name Gen Prem as head of government so he can preside at the celebration of the Fifth Cycle (60th) birthday of His Majesty the King on December 5 next year. The celebrations will continue for six months until His Majesty reaches the date when he becomes the longest reigning monarch of Thailand.

NEW ARMY COMMANDER INTERVIEWED ON APPOINTMENT

BK271020 Bangkok Television Service in Thai 0900 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] New Army Commander General Chawalit Yongchaiyut late this morning gave an interview to newsmen about his appointment as the Army commander. He said:

[Begin recording] [Chawalit] I pay much attention to the welfare of the people in the Army, especially the main forces including the low-ranking officers and noncommissioned officers. In the past, I have accompanied my superiors on visits and perceived that it was clearly a policy of the former army commander. We want them to have as comfortable a life as possible given the current economic difficulties. That is the general policy; I cannot give further details at this moment. As I said earlier, I must receive more guidance from the superiors. Do you have any more questions?

[Unidentified reporter] [Words Indistinct] politics?

[Chawalit] What I told you a moment ago should cover this question. The Army will do its duties and assignments. As for politics, we all know that the former Army commander wants to see a clean and fair election. Soldiers and the Army always support elections.

[Unidentified reporter] When will you assume your new post?

[Chawalit] It is not our tradition to do that. We regard the Army commander's status effective immediately after he signs his name acknowledging the order issued by the prime minister. At this moment, we must listen to our superiors concerning the handover of the post. Officials are making preparations. This does not pose any problem.

[Unidentified reporter] When will the appointments to fill the vacancies be made [words indistinct]?

[Chawalit] It seems that you want me to comment on the order made by my superior. I cannot do that. The ministerial regulations clearly state that the defense minister will appoint officers as the caretakers of vacant posts. That order has already been issued. General Akkhaphon Somrup, the first assistant Army commander, has been appointed to concurrently serve in the additional post of deputy commander, and Lieutenant General Weanchai Ruangtrakun, first deputy army chief of staff, will concurrently serve as the army chief of staff. This is in accordance with the chair of command.

[Unidentified reporter] Canayou reaffirm that there will be a general election?

[Chawalit] I have always said that we want our army to completely stay apart from politics. We are serving the government and will be fair and neutral so that elections can be held in a clean and fair manner. Not only me, but all soldiers and the people in general would be unhappy if the general elections were held in an unfair manner. We want the politicians running in the election to crate confidence among the people and prove that they are willing to serve the country and the people. They should refrain from any act that could lead to confusion. I believe that everything will be alright. The [former Army] commander and I have confirmed that we will not do anything to ruin the clean and fair elections. We cannot do that.

Elections are a mechanism that can defend the democratic system. We have confirmed to the mass media that this is our policy. I must thank you once again and hope that we will meet again. I thank you for your cooperation rendered to the army and the supreme commander who is our superior. I thank you in advanve for the cooperation you will give to the army in the future. I feel rather awkward in front to the people of the mass media. I want to do more than talk. We have been talking a lot. It would be better for us to speak less and do more. I have told my brothers who came to congratulate me that we will have to work harder together. We must work together as brothers. I asked them not to regard me as the army commander; they should treat me like their elder brother. We have many things to do in the future. Do you have any more question?

[Unidentified reporter] We want you to confirm that the obscure situation will later return to normal?

[Chawalit] I do not know what Khun Phutsadi means when you use the word obscure. Do you mean the political atmosphere?

[Phutsadi] Everything.

[Chawalit] Everything. I hope that I will be able to do my best and do my duty. I want to tell you that I will do everything to dispel the obscure situation. In order to do that, I need information, suggestions from everyone including my subordinates and younger brothers. You people are also important to me. Please do not close my eyes and ears. You can help me a lot by telling me what is going on in the country and what I should do. If I make a mistake, please let me know. I am still the same person. This is the only way I can learn. I will try my best to answer Khun Phutsadi's question. [end recording]

DEMOCRATS RELEASE LIST OF ELECTION CANDIDATES

BK220215 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 May 86 pp 1, 24

[Excerpt] The Democrat Party last night decided on most of the estimated 225 candidates for the upcoming general election. Most of the candidates for Bangkok-Thonburi were picked during yesterday's screening chaired by party leader Phichai Rattakun.

- -- Phichai, Lek Nana and Akhom Sonsuchat will run on the same ticket in Phrakhanong area.
- -- Charoen Kantawong, Wichit Wisetsuwannaphum and Manop Thanasukan will run in Yannawa.
- -- Marut Bunnak, M.L. Seri Pramot and Kanin Bunsuwan will run in Phranakhon area.
- -- Other Democrat candidates for Bangkok whose zones have not been disclosed include: Gen Han Linanon, Dr Supachai Phanitchaphak, Dr Supachai Manatphaibun, Adm Samut Sahanawin, Pamot Sukhum, Chaldemphan Siwikon, Phichit Rattakun, Wanida Chitman, Dr Nadapraphai Sucharitkun and Nikhon Chanthrawithun.

Phichai announced last night that a total of 197 candidates had been picked while the final nationwide list could include 225 candidates.

FORMER YOUNG TURK HEADS CHAT THAI CANDIDATES

BK240339 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 May 86 p 3

[Text] Former Young Turk Leader Colonel Prachak Sawangchit said yesterday he will head a team of Chat Thai Party candidates to contest the general election in Bangkok Constituency 7.

Col Prachak said he was confident of support in Bang khen (Constituency 7) because he has been doing business in the district for five years since the Army dismissed him for his role in an abortive coup in April 1981. The former coup leader said he decided to enter politics because he no longer believed in the use of force to effect changes.

Saying that political conflicts were normal in a democracy, Col Prachak said: "Those who enter politics but always try to stay above conflicts and problems are not politicians. We call them opportunists." He said his team would include a military officer and a civilian. He declined to reveal their identitites, but said that there would be no other young turk officers except himself in the team.

Meanwhile, Chat Thai leader Maj-gen Praman Adireksan said that he has sought support from the Democrat and Social Action parties for a proposal that a political party leader with a House majority be appointed the next prime minister.

MUSLIM REBELS FORM SECESSIONIST ORGANIZATION

BK240855 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 22 May 86 pp 1, 16

[Text] Colonel Banchon Chawansin, chief of the Civilian Affairs Division of the 4th Army Region, gave a press briefing at the Supreme Command Information Office on 21 May. He said the Pattani United Liberation Organization, the Barisan Revolusi Nasional, and the Barisan Nasional Pembebasan Patani have combined to form the Mujahidin Pattani Movement in an effort to revive the situation in the south in their favor. Banchon said the mujahidin movement has used the claim that Muslims in the south are victims of government prejudice to justify its goal of forming certain areas of the southern border provinces into an independent state. This secessionist concept has been spread since 1983 but the Mujahidin Pattani Movement was only established on 16 September 1985.

Banchon said the mujahidin movement reportedly received foreign assistance but he said foreign assistance was not the factor in deciding the success of a movement. A revolutionary war would never succeed without indigenous causes. He believed the movement will enventually fail because it was not based on real causes and, besides, the 66/23 policy is still effective and Muslims in the South are treated fairly by the government.

Regarding the Communist Party of Malaya [CPM] guerrilas, the rate of defection is high but not high enough to be significant considering their size of 1,500. They have operated in Thai territory for 40 years and have inflicted great losses on Thai resources. The 4th Army Region is now emphasizing suppression of the CPM guerillas by establishing the forward headquarters on 1 May at the 2d Battalion, 5th Infantry Division in Pattani Province in order to apply military pressure and step up deployment to destroy the fighting capability of the CPM.

CAMBODIAN, LAO BORDER ACTIVITY EXAMINED

BK280306 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The Supreme Command Information Office has reported on the border situation in the past week. In Cambodia, Vietnam sent about 1,500 troops together with a large number of artillery pieces, tanks, and armored personnel carriers to the central part of the country in preparation for an operation to suppress the CGDK forces in that area. Fierce fighting is expected in this area this rainy season. Regarding the Thai-Cambodian border situation, shells lands on Thai territory in Khunhan District of Sisaket Province and Pong Nam Ron District of Chanthaburi Province resulting in the death and injury of a number of Thai villagers. In addition, Thai villagers also stepped on landmines in Nam Yun District of Ubon Ratchathani Province.

As for the situation along the Thai-Lao border, about 400 Vietnamese troops conducted a training session for Lao soldiers and carried out a survey on areas along the Mekong River. Vietnamese troops were sent to replace part of the Lao soldiers in areas opposite Pak Khat Subdistrict of Nong Khai Province. The Lao Government also sent Soviet and Vietnamese technicians to supervise the construction of a radar station at the airport in Sayaboury Province. Lao soldiers carried out one provocation against the Thai side. They intruded onto Thai soil and clashed with a Thai patrol unit in Buntharik District of Ubon Ratchathani Province.

CHINESE FRIENDSHIP GROUP ARRIVES FOR VISIT

BK260941 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 26 May 86 p 4

[Excerpt] A 20-member delegation of the China Association for International Friendly Contacts led by its Honorary President Wang Zhen arrived at Don Muang Airport at 1530 on 25 May for a visit at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry and the Thai-Chinese Friendship Association. They were warmly greeted at the airport by Chairman of the Thai-Chinese Friendship Association Major General Chatchai Chunhawan, Chinese Ambassador Zhang Dewei, Chinese Embassy Military Attche Mu Huimin, Counselor Tang Fuquan, Secretary Yang Chong, and Secretary Li Mao; and overseas Chinese communityleaders, such as Zheng Minru, Qiu Xijian, Ding Jiajun, Wu Fengjin, Li Jiannan, Chen Kexiu, Wang Baowen, Huang Nanrong, and Wei Huanzhang.

During his stay in Thailand, the 79-year-old delegation chief Wang Zhen will pay courtesy calls on Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, and Parliament President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin.

This delegation of the China Association for International Friendly Contacts will stay in Thailand for 12 days and is scheduled to visit the northern province of Chiang Mai and the southern province of Phuket. The delegation will conclude its visit and return to China on 5 June.

HUNGARIAN PAPER INTERVIEWS PHAM VAN DONG

AU070621 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 26 Apr 86 p 5

[Interview given by Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, to Oszkar Fuzes: "Interview with Premier Pham Van Dong -- On Vietnam's Socialist Construction Work." Date and place not given; first three paragraphs are paper's introduction]

[Text] There are more than legends connected with the medium-height slim figure of Pham Van Dong; history has bound him to itself. The 8 decades of his life have been closely intertwined with the struggle to advance Vietnam, once the most backward colonial country, lagging behind others by thousands of years, to advance it in spite of the huge armed struggle forced upon it after World War II and to create a socialist people's power in their free country.

He is one of the most eminent politicians in today's Asia, a surviving member of a great generation. His career is unparalleled and undiminished: from a provincial teacher he became a diplomat, financial expert, and premier. He is a quiet and smiling man who carries everyone with him; this was his character both in the underground cell of the French colonial prison and among the world personalities of the Bandung conference in 1955 that have made the history books ever since, personalities with whom he started the united struggle of the developing world for progress. He was a poker-faced and shrewd negotiating partner in 1946 when he had to consolidate the country's independence politically in the face of colonial power and he was charged with conducting the most difficult negotiations. Like every Vietnamese, he is smiling and full of temperament and he loves a duel of words. He is a relentless critic and an incurable optimist. Thousands of stories surround him and he would be flooded with signs of affection all over Vietnam if at every meeting or visit he did not immediately get to the point, and analyze the problems and difficulties. He has been heading the SRV Government since September, 1955.

Recently, on the occasion of his 80th birthday, the Hungarian Presidential Council decorated him with the Order of the Banner adorned with rubies. Soon after that he answered questions put to him by NEPSZABADSAO.

[Fuzes] Vietnam celebrated the 40th anniversary of gaining the socialist people's power a few months ago. How do you evaluate the achievements and specific features of this historical road?

[Pham Van Dong] Our people created the first workers and peasants' state in Southeast Asia in autumn 1945 under the guidance of the Communist Party established and led by Chairman Ho Chi Minh, proclaiming the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The last 40 years represent only 1 percent of our people's 4,000 year history but it is the most beautiful period for us in the era following the Great October Revolution. We finally emerged from the darkness of our fate, we became free from slavery, and from being homeless servants we became guiders of our own fate and were able to defend ourselves, our independence, and socialism from the most aggressive efforts of imperialism.

Three out of these 4 decades our people had to defend themselves with arms, true to their nath: "Nothing is dearer to us than independence and freedom." In the last 10 years, we had to reconstruct our fatherland while continuing to be forced to confront and face the aggressive threats of the enemy on two fronts.

Healing the War Wounds

The victory of the Vietnamese revolution is the triumph of creation and the search for the right way, the realization of Marxism-Leninism based on the principle of specific national features. Thanks to this, the Vietnamese people defeated the aggression of imperialism and international reaction and achieved successes -- even if only initial ones -- in eliminating poverty and backwardness and in promoting a flourishing civilized and happy life.

In the course of these 40 years, our people's struggle became intertwined with the revolutionary struggles of all progressive forces, with the battles fought for social progress and peace. The victory of the Vietnamese people is also inseparable from the help and support given to us by the Soviet Union, Hungary, the other socialist countries, and every honest public force on Earth. Our victory is the common victory of the peoples of the socialist countries and the progressive forces of the world.

[Fuzes] In eliminating the inherited backwardness and the consequences of the long war, how does the society's shift from war conditions to peaceful construction work advance? What are the main characteristics of the transitional period?

[Pham Van Dong] I would like to draw attention to the fact that our people are still unable to live in full peace.

We have already healed the war wounds. We have essentially eliminated the exploiting classes also in the South and we have restored the economy there. We have achieved considerable results in agriculture, mainly in grain production. Industrial production has further developed. Cultural, educational, and health conditions as well as the technological and scientific level have improved. The standard of living primarily of the population living in villages has stabilized and the living conditions are gradually improving. Our defense has further strengthened and so has the internal and public security.

In spite of all this, we have still many difficulties. In constructing socialism we are starting from an economic situation the main factor of which is small enterprise production which was severely damaged by the war and which is still suffering from the enemy or from natural disasters. All this forces our people to face great trials. The period of transition to socialism is very difficult in every country since it is carried out in the midst of an acute struggle. In the case of Vietnam, the first phase of the transitional period is even more complex.

In addition to our successes, we are also making a considerable number of mistakes, and there are several issues we must analyze and seek solutions for. We are facing difficult tasks but our people are stronger today in every respect than any time in our 4,000-year history and are able to successfully construct socialism and firmly defend it.

Together with the people of Laos and Cambodia, our people have repeatedly declared their good intention to create peaceful and friendly cooperation with the countries in the area. We are ready to normalize our relations with China too, and this is a firm decision: we are always taking into consideration the friendship between the two peoples.

I must stress that, following the long struggle for independence and freedom, the most ardent desire of the Vietnamese people is to be able to reconstruct their country in peace. Therefore we fully support the Soviet initiatives of great importance aimed at halting the nuclear arms race on earth and in space and safeguarding and consolidating world peace.

The Reform of Economic Management

[Fuzes] What are the current period's most difficult tasks in the development of the socialist democracy and the modernization of the people's economy? What is possible and what can you do to improve the currently still modest standard of living and to increase production efficiency?

[Pham Van Dong] We were able to defeat the aggressors in the liberation and defense war because we could mobilize the power of the entire people. Now, we must concentrate the efforts of our workers, the entire nation, and every man on peaceful construction work. We can achieve the goals of our economic and social development set by the party only if, applying the Marxist-Leninist requirements of socialist democracy, we regard the system of collective socialist ownership of the working people as an important driving force of the new period. We have created and are modernizing a mechanism in which — as our slogan succinctly puts it — the party leads, the people own and exercise their ownership rights, and the government organizes and directs the activity. The three factors are naturally closely interrelated. We are paying close attention to making sure that the workers are indeed asserting their ownership rights on merit, fulfilling their obligations, and increasingly developing their abilities through constant self-training and the development of their awareness.

We are reorganizing the structure of our people's economy in such a way as to develop a rational and balanced agricultural-industrial structure. At the same time, we are carrying out the reform of the mechanism of economic management on the basis of decisions of the party's Central Committee adopted in June, 1985.

We are striving to eliminate the bureaucratic-administrative economic management based on state subsidies and to switch over to the socialist self-contained economy. We are increasing the economic units' capacity to take initiative and we are creating an efficient division of labor and authority in management between the central and local organs on the basis of democratic centralism.

Advancing in Shaping the New Way of Life

Our economic and social activity is directed towards improving productivity, quality, and efficiency; making more social products and of better structure; and increasing national income, consumption, and accumulation. It is in accordance with this that we are stabilizing and improving the people's standard of living and their living conditions. Only in this way can we strengthen the defense of our country and carry out the socialist industrialization. Our first goal is to gradually increase the financial and cultural standard of living of the people living in villages as regards clothing, food supplies, transportation, schooling, and public education. Naturally, we wish to connect all these things with the shaping of a socialist way of life and the socialist content of social contacts among people.

The planned sixth congress of our party intends to open up a new phase in the progress of our revolution. Our tasks reflect the requirement to provide practical evidence of the superiority of the socialist economy and, at the same time, realize the three-fold revolution in the means of production, scientific-technical progress, and ideology and culture, in working out appropriate methods for our circumstances, we will continue to study the experience of the Soviet Union, Hungary, and other fraternal socialist states.

[Fuzes] How are the countries of the socialist community helping in the completion of the abovementioned tasks? What concepts exist for making cooperation more efficient and increasing mutual advantages?

[Pham Van Dong] Our nation has always enjoyed and enjoys the effective support, help, and cooperation of the Soviet Union, Hungary, and the other states within the socialist community. We consider this a decisive factor that contributes to the success of economic and social targets. Key projects of the national economy built by such assistance provide a great stimulus to the economy of Vietnam. We are glad that the coordination and implementation of the national economic plans of Vietnam and the other CEMA member states bring mutual good results for Vietnam and the socialist community.

It is the principled policy of our party and government always to improve the quality and efficiency of multilateral cooperation between Vietnam and the fraternal socialist countries. We make every effort to make this cooperation serve the interests of all parties. We make efforts to fulfill the obligations in various fields included in the cooperation between Vietnam and the CEMA member states. Within the framework of these obligations Vietnam delivers tropical agricultural produce, consumer goods manufactured under contract, handicrafts, and folklore goods, artisan products, and manufactured products to the fraternal countries. As regards foreign trade, we introduced several measures for precisely fulfilling the signed agreements.

I hope that by relying on its diligence, creativeness, talent, and rich national resources, the Vietnamese people will surely and satisfactorily fulfill their tasks to the benefit of themselves and the socialist community.

Prospects for Cooperation

[Fuzes] What is your opinion about Hungarian-Vietnamese relations and what possibilities do you see for their expansion?

[Pham Van Dong] Both peoples can say that they possess a tradition of long and heroic struggle for national independence and social progress. In this present age, we are bound together in the joint idea of peace and socialism. The friendly relationship, military solidarity, and multilateral cooperation between our parties and peoples are growing and expanding constantly on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

The Vietnamese people are happy about the great successes achieved in the recent period by fraternal Hungary. The Hungarian people were strong enough to significantly change the image of society in their homeland. Being in a strong alliance with the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community, Hungary occupies a laudable place with increasing respect in the socialist community and among nations.

The Vietnamese people will never forget the dedicated support of the Hungarian party, government, and fraternal Hungarian people in their fight against the imperialist aggression and in our present patriotic defense, in constructing our country. We express our sincere thanks to you.

The prospects of our multilateral cooperation are great and promising both for Vietnam and for Hungary. Apart from the great opportunities of economic, technical, and scientific cooperation, there is an ever broader scope for our peoples to get to know each other's country, progressive national traditions, and the experience gained in construction, and to increase these strong ties.

I take this opportunity to convey to the Hungarian people the most sincerely fraternal feelings of the Vietnamese people. I wish the Hungarian people — under the leadership of the MSZMP led by Comrade Janos Kadar whom we deeply respect — new successes in implementing the 13th MSZMP Congress resolutions by creating a firm foundation for completing the advanced socialist society with success in their beautiful homeland, and by contributing to the maintenance of European and world peace.

NHAN DAN ON TASKS ON ANNIVERSARY OF HO'S BIRTHDAY

BK231325 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 May 86

[19 May NHAN DAN Editorial: "Uncle Ho Lives Forever in Our Revolutionary Cause"]

[Text] Our entire party and people are making preparations for the Sixth CPV Congress. Various leading party organizations at various echelons and sectors are launching an important drive to review supervision in implementing tasks set forth by the Fifth CPV Congress, to conduct criticism and self-criticism to review the quality, ethics, and work behavior of leading cadres as well as the policy regarding party cadres. Our people and Army throughout the country are participating in emulations to score achievements to greet the sixth party congress. The revolutionary consciousness of our people and combatants and the communists' sense of responsibility are the motive encouraging us in all our activities. The movement to renovate the economic management system and implement the right to autonomy of basic economic units in production and business is being launched, thereby stirring up the creative spirit of cadres and the people and bringing about encouraging initial achievements.

Our party is preparing for its sixth congress amid the situation in which our revolution is overcoming various complex ordeals; achieving basic, strategically-significant victories in building socialism; defending the socialist fatherland; and fulfilling international obligations. Our army and people have scored an important victory over the multifaceted war of sabotage of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists in collusion with U.S. imperialism and other international reactionary forces, thereby firmly defending our nation's territorial integrity and political security and foiling the enemy's encirclement and blockade against us. All socialist forces have been Various material bases are being built, whose new production relations have been established and are being consolidated in the whole system of the national economy. The revolutionary heroism and socialist thinking of our people have been manifested in the struggles for national defense, productive labor, and in building a new life. The general picture of our nation is very bright while our revolution is advancing. However, consequences of objective difficulties, subjective shortcomings, and the degeneration of some groups in our combat contingents are still prevalent.

Our entire party is concentrating its intelligence and efforts to review the tasks of our party and state, affirm achievements and strengths, realize mistakes and short-comings, and design tasks and objectives to lead our revolutionary cause to new and ever greater victories.

In carrying-out political activities, to prepare for the Sixth CPV Congress, every Vietnamese is reminded of the good virtues and teachings of esteemed President Ho Chi Minh, founder and trainer of our party who created conditions for the victory of our people's struggle. The president's cause is also the cause of our party and nation. He lives eternally in our revolutionary cause, and our revolutionary cause is always his own cause. Maintaining his cause and implementing the testament of President Ho Chi Minh, our party gained total victory in the anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation, thereby liberating the fatherland and unifying the nation.

Our nation is advancing toward socialism. Many of us, including party members and workers of different generations have lived, struggled, and worked according to the example of President Ho Chi Minh and implemented his vauable advice. Thanks to President Ho's leadership and teachings and forged by their struggles, many comrades and generations of Vietnamese have acquired political maturity and fine revolutionary quality. The unity of all echelons is always the invincible strength and valuable quality of our party. Before dying, President Ho Chi Minh urged us to strengthen unity and unanimity in the party for the lofty interests of the nation and the people. Living up to his cause, we must always implement his testament, especially when our revolution is facing various difficult ordeals.

President Ho Chi Minh always taught us that to become a real revolutionary, we must acquire revolutionary ethics, be faithful to our ideal, the fatherland, and the people, while striving to work selflessly, practise thrift, lead a moderate and healthy life, and protect the people's interests. Our party enjoys high prestige among the people thanks to the fact that most of our revolutionary comrades have fought valiantly, worked selflessly, and led a moderate life. It is regrettable that some of us, due to bad habits, have neglected morality, law, and principle, while others have contested for positions and led a debauched life, thereby undermining the prestige of our party. These people must be expelled in order to purify the contingent of our party members.

Individualism, in any form, is a dangerous cause for communists, because if we neglect party discipline and oppose the people's interests, we cannot avoid facing shortcomings. If our motive is for individualism, we cannot be faithful to our party and people. Working selflessly is a base for correctly maintaining the daily relationship between communists for the lofty interest of socialism. President Ho Chi Minh taught us that the people are the ones who determine all victories of the revolution. The party comes from the people and it fights for the fatherland and the people. The consistent close relationship between the party and the masses has resulted in the invincible strength of the party. Staying away from the people in any form, implementing inappropriate measures, violating the people's interests, and setting no good example, will diminish the party's prestige.

Uncle Ho lives eternally in our cause, because in our good times as well as in our difficulty, his teachings and examples have always illuminated us to advance. When each of us faced difficulties, we always thought of his teachings, thereby overcoming our troubles. President Ho Chi Minh taught us to use the invariable to cope with the variable, that is to firmly maintain our faithfulness and the revolutionary ethics in order to overcome all ordeals. All of us must always live, struggle, and learn from President Ho Chi Minh's good examples.

ARMY MONTHLY MARKS HO CHI MINH'S 96TH BIRTHDAY

Part I

BK240757 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 18 May 86

[TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN May 1986 editorial: "Unity Is the Most Precious Tradition of Our Party and People" -- Part 1]

[Text] Our people and troops throughout the country commemorate President Ho Chi Minh's 96th birthday at a time when the entire party is entering a political drive of self-criticism and criticism, conducting the party congresses at all levels, and preparing for the sixth national party congress. More than ever before, our cadres and party members remember great Uncle Ho who lives forever in our revolutionary cause even though he has already bade us farewell.

His priceless spiritual, intellectual, and ethical legacies remain always an inexhaustible source of vitality for our cadres and party members in the realities of transforming society and themselves.

President Ho Chi Minh founded and trained our party. He was the matchless leader of the Vietnamese working class and nation and the Vietnamese Armed Forces' beloved father. When bidding us farewell, he said: Comrades, from the Central Committee to the party chapters you should protect party unity and singlemindedness like the apple of your eye.

Throughout his relentless revolutionary lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh was attentively building party unity and singlemindedness. He himself personified party unity and singlemindedness and the great all-people solidarity bloc. He considered unity to be like a mother. If unity is assured, it will give birth to good offspring.

Speaking to troops, he repeatedly urged: You should unite not just by word of mouth but truly, in work and study. The historical lesson of building our party has asserted: The invincible strength of our party comes from unity and the singlemindedness of the party. Thanks to unity and singlemindedness, the party has led our people and troops to surmount all dangers and defeat all aggressors, advancing the Vietnamese revolution to ever greater victories.

Just as President Ho Chi Minh indicated: Unity is the most precious tradition of our party and people. Each cadre, party member, and citizen can be justifiably proud of this precious tradition of the party and should worry if ever there is an indication that this tradition might be impaired -- no matter how lightly -- in this or that locality. Unity and singlemindedness of the party is primarily unanimity in the party lines, viewpoints and policies, and the people's interests. Our party's revolutionary line is the creative application of Marxism-Leninism to realities in Vietnam.

At present, national construction and defense is posing many new problems. Every cadre and party member, especially leading cadres in all sectors and localities and at all levels, must strive to learn Marxism-Leninism and to constantly and comprehensively improve knowledge while closely watching the real and constant developments in the country. Only by doing so, can they help build, materialize, and develop the party's revolutionary line and create a high degree of identity of views on party knowledge and ideology which in turn engenders unity in action, organization, and implementation.

Our party rules and organizes the life of tens of millions of people, providing food, clothing, housing, education, health care, and transportation. This is a great undertaking, complicated by towering difficulties.

Moreover, the party is beset by enemies from all directions. They seek every means to destroy the unity and singlemindedness of the party. They criticize the party leadership and separate the party from the masses. More than ever before, the party must tighten its ranks, strengthen solidarity, and unify its mind and action in order to unite all the people and advance the revolution through difficulties towards steadier steps. Divisive and factionalist acts violate the principle of party activity and constitute one of the causes of loose proletarian dictatorship, driving the party into the evil of bureaucratism and other evils that encroach on the people's collective mastery, weaken party strength, and impair the party's reputation.

The revolution in our country is in the initial stage of transition to socialism and in circumstances particularly rife with many complex and contradictory relations. It is not easy to perceive the law of life, thoroughly understand the nature of things, find out suitable steps, and resolve problems arising in life. It is all the more difficult to do so in one or two days.

It is normal for the party to hold differing views on this or that issue of developing lines, putting forth guidelines and policies, assessing the situation, and organizing the implementation. It is necessary and correct to discuss these frankly, clearly state political viewpoints, debate democratically, profoundly analyze the situation, clearly point out shortcomings, and correctly look at the causes in order to unify knowledge and action. This conforms with freedom and democracy advocated by the party. Only by doing so, can we renovate the way of thinking and work behavior and bring about changes in party activities in order to bring about changes in leadership and social management.

Once views have been unified and become resolutions of the party committees, all party organizations and members must scrupulously comply with them and absolutely obey them even if they still hold differing views. The party must have one voice, one determination, and one act. If party members sing their own tunes, how can we expect victory?

Party unity and singlemindedness must be based on the guarantee of party members' democratic rights, the development of collective intelligence, and the correct observance of the principle for democratic centralization. Uncle Ho always reminded all the party organizations and party committees that all work should be debated democratically and collectively.

We must hold democratic discussions and debates; strenuously seek unity in knowledge and action; listen to the suggestions of cadres, party members, and people -- including those unpleasant yet justified suggestions -- and motivate the people to tell the truth frankly to the party. We must not overlook or hastily criticize opposing views and must not frame outspoken and constructive party members. We must promote the fruitful creativity of the masses in combat and production in order to supplement the knowledge of the party and enhance its leadership.

According to natural law, as a result of understandable psychological and physiological factors, some old, experienced, and well-positioned comrades in positions of authority have difficulty accepting innovations and views different from their own. Meanwhile, there are also some young comrades who are complacent in their shallow knowledge. Such intellectual senility is manifested in reluctance to accept new things and indulgence in talking more than listening, which exist in some party members of all ages.

This phenomenon, along with some other undemocratic manifestations, has caused a loss of vitality in the party activities and has much adversely affected unity and single-mindedness of the party. Party unity and singlemindedness is manifested primarily by the activities of the party Central Committee, the Political Bureau, and party committees at all levels.

The resolutions of party committee echelons must be the products of collective intelligence, reflecting the unified will and action of all the party organizations. Party committee echelons must secure a high level of unity and singlemindedness and be the true center of unity for the entire party organization. The principle of democratic centralization must be correctly observed in conducting the activities of party committees. Each party committee member must uphold his party membership and his sense of responsibility to the party and the people to hold very democratic discussions and debates. Party committee echelons must reach a conclusion and issue a resolution which reflects unanimity within the party committees.

In conducting the meetings of party committees, we cannot tolerate the refusal of some to state their political views or to discuss differing views for clarification.

If no clear-cut, definite conclusion is reached in a conference, when we write the resolution we must deviate, trying to resolve differing views to some acceptable extent. As a result, when they go back to their units, each person will organize and implement the resolution in his own way, that is, at times, against the spirit of the resolution itself.

We communists are closely united in life and death. We share woe and weal because we have a common revolutionary ideal and because of our comradeship. This is true unity based on the ideological and organizational principles of the party which are consolidated by the bright and selfless revolutionary sentiments of communists.

This unity completely differs from superficial unity that it not felt deep in the heart. It is not like so-called teamwork and cronyism. Teamwork in its true sense is a collective of capable and good collaborators who are closely attached to one another on the basis of party principles and comradeship, and who assist one another in fulfilling the party mission. It is very important and necessary to build truly capable teamwork in the interests of the party, collectives, unity and cordiality. However, in reality, there have been some cases in which cronies gather under the label of teamwork and are appointed to this or that position when they personally do not deserve such positions. Then, these people praise one another, protect one another, and bully those who do not side with them.

President Ho Chi Minh severely criticized party members of self-condoning mind and acts who are factionalist and nepotistic. They appoint their relatives and friends to this and that position even though these people do not merit it, or they protect their faction against others. They employ and listen to anyone who sides with them even though the persons involved have no ability and talk incorrectly. They try to hold down all those who do not side with them and refuse to listen to these persons.

Regrettably, such thinking and practices still exist and seem to develop. The party's strict sense of organization and discipline unites minds and actions within the party. President Ho Chi Minh maintains that the party's invincible strength stems from the cadres and party members self-imposed discipline and scrupulous sense of organization. He once specified: Although our party members are numerous, when engaging in combat we fight as one. This is because our steel-like discipline is stern and self-imposed.

All cadres and party members regardless of position must strictly observe party discipline and stay within the organization. They are absolutely forbidden to resort to personal arbitrariness by placing themselves above the organization and discipline. President Ho Chi Minh used to severely criticize cadres and party members in charge for giving themselves the authority to decide everything. They have considered the sectors and localities of their assignments as their own kingdoms and have ignored the common interest. They have belittled the decisions of the organization.

The characteristic of our party's self-imposed discipline is loyalty, loyalty in speech and action and loyalty to the organizations, people, higher echelons, subordinates, and oneself. Party discipline is applied sternly, justly, and equally to all party members. There is no exception. The higher the position and the longer the party membership, the more severe will be any disciplinary action if needed.

These phenomena often criticized by Uncle Ho must be resolutely eliminated. There have been comrades who are misdoing with impunity. Some comrades lose their positions in one locality but get the same position in another. Some other comrades have been removed from their positions just for the sake of formality and have remained to work at the ministry level.

Some comrades who should have been heavily punished only received informal warnings to save face. In some localities, they have even protected and condoned one another by deceiving higher authorities and hiding from the organization. Such actions will lead to loose discipline and disregard for state law and social discipline. They will impair unity and singlemindedness within the party and adversely affect party leadership and militancy.

Conclusion of Editorial

BK270620 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 19 May 86

[TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN May 1986 editorial: "Unity Is the Most Precious Tradition of Our Party and People" -- concluding part]

[Text] In order to consolidate and develop unity and singlemindedness in the party, strictly maintain discipline, and develop the strength of the party, President Ho Chi Minh used to urge party cadres and members to conduct self-criticism and criticism in a constant and scrupulous manner. Our Uncle Ho is a pure and model example of self-criticism and criticism. In the early years of the revolution, when our party was still in its infant stage and was operating clandestinely under fierce sabotage by the enemy, it was faced with numerous seemingly insurmountable difficulties. Nevertheless, as already predicted by the Uncle: the more our party develops, the stronger it will be. And it has led the people in carrying out the revolution successfully and the resistance victoriously. This is because our party has skillfully used its sharp weapon of criticism and self-criticism.

In today's great and new tasks of building socialism and defending the fatherland, the party can hardly avoid difficulties, shortcomings, and even errors. Only through self-criticism and criticism can the party redress its shortcomings and errors and thereby reduce its difficulties. Only through self-criticism and criticism can the party struggle victoriously against the vestige of the old society, against backward customs and traditions, and against those bad practices that may arise for a ruling party. Also through self-criticism and criticism, the party can train, cultivate, and improve the levels of knowledge and ideology of party cadres and members, consolidate unity and singlemindedness within the party, and strengthen ties between the party and the masses.

Before leaving us forever, President Ho Chi Minh gave this advice: Within the party, promoting widespread application of democratic principles and conducting self-criticism and criticism in a constant and scrupulous manner are the best way to consolidate and develop the unity and unification of the party. It is necessary to promote comradeship and mutual love. Self-criticism and criticism are aimed mainly at developing strong points, correcting shortcomings, and helping one another make progress. They are also aimed at better improving working methods, and at promoting internal unity and unification. Self-criticism must be carried out openly and honestly without giving any serious consideration to anyone or attempting to make any modifications.

Uncle Ho also said: Criticism must be directed at work done and not at the man who did it. That is why we should not use derisive, sarcastic and pungent words. For our Armed Forces, self-criticism and criticism is aimed at enhancing the unity between cadres themselves, between cadres and combatants, and between troops and the people. Uncle Ho further said that self-criticism and criticism are a weapon capable of making our Armed Forces an inevitably victorious Army. When operation clandestinely, the party satisfactorily used the weapon of self-criticism and criticism. Otherwise, it would have been criticized by the enemy which resorted to weapons, killing, torture, and detention.

Self-criticism and criticism must be carried out in a frank, sincere, open-minded, and at times, fierce manner and must be based entirely on the love of comradeship.

In the case of a ruling party with many members holding high positions in various state organs, the self-criticism and criticism carried out within the party between higher and lower echelons, between party members and nonparty members, and even between comrades of the same ranks are not simple.

In many organizations, public organs, enterprises, and units, self-criticism and criticism have not been conducted regularly and stringently, or else it has been laden with formality. In some cases, out of a sense of delicateness, criticism has been made in an indirect way and not directly pointed at certain persons. Hence, there has existed a lack of unity. (?The means of information) have been troubled for many reasons. People of the same rank have not understood one another correctly. Higher echelons have failed to stay close to lower echelons, and the party has stayed aloof from the masses. A number of party members who are holding high positions and exercising great power have become bureaucratic, paternalistic, arbitrary, and despotic, thus curbing the dynamism, creativity, and abilities of party cadres and members as well as of the masses, infringing upon the people's collective mastery, and causing a decline in the party's popularity.

In the current situation, self-criticism and criticism especially self-criticism, have emerged as an urgent requirement for key leadership cadres at all sectors, echelons, and units. It is common sense, as noted by Uncle Ho, that to carry out self-criticism and criticism effectively, cadres at all levels, especially high-ranking cadres, must first set a good example.

A number of party memebers with high positions and authority who, due to lack of constant training, coupled with a tendency to be tempted by the arrogance of being a communist as a result of their being deceived with flattering words by many people following the victory gained by the revolution, have become vainglorious, living on their laurels. These comrades do not want to analyze and criticize their own work openly and frankly before the masses and the collective. They do not want to listen to the criticism of subordinates and the masses for fear of losing their prestige and their face. In any areas where key cadres refuse to set good examples and to conduct self-criticism stringently while being very fond of criticizing and lecturing other people, it will be impossible to generate a healthy, frank, and honest atmosphere in self-criticism and criticism no matter how hard propaganda effort are. In these areas, the masses will be afraid to criticize the leadership.

Uncle Ho had this observation: When the masses refrain from making criticism, it does not mean that they have nothing to say. They think that even if they speak up, they will not be able to get the higher echelons to listen to and consider their problems. And this, in some cases, will only invite hatred. Active people who have the courage to struggle are usually criticized as negative. Criticism has only been made in the absence — never in the presence — of such people. This is the problem of maintaining silence inside the party and becoming outspoken outside the party and this has caused disunity to the internal ranks and has driven everyone into self-defense, thereby creating a seemingly calm but actually very tense situation.

Critics must be fair-minded and must take responsibility for their criticism and must have a sense of responsibility toward their comrades. The party's principle of criticism does not allow anyone to regard himself as an informed person knowing a great deal of important information which is, in fact, misleading and unverified information. Otherwise, he might liberally criticize his superiors and attack the leadership in a resentful, angry, and irresponsible manner.

Self-criticism and criticism must be carried out very frankly without giving particular consideration to any friends or superiors and without adopting an attitude by which one tends to treat comrades and subordinates in a very tough and Marxist fashion while resorting to objective difficulties as a means to justify and cover up one's own shortcomings or taking criticism too lightly. Self-criticism and criticism must be logical and sensible. Logic is rationality, and also the line governing the party's ideological and organizational principles. Logic must go together with sense, which is the love of comradeship and concern for the progress and maturing of comrades. More than anyone else, in everyday life, communists are people who are very loyal, honest, and faithful.

President Ho Chi Minh had this advice for party cadres and members: Criticism must be clear, substantial, frank, and sincere. The purpose of this is to correct and not attack one's shortcomings and to help one another make progress and not embarrass or discourage one's comrades. And one should uphold a sense of affection and sincerity in criticizing his comrades.

The masses are those who directly implement the party-state lines and policies and supervise all the activities of cadres and party members in various organizatins and agencies. With brilliant sensitivity, the masses can clearly and accurately distinguish those who are loyal and capable and who work for the benefit of the party and people from those who are obsequious, incapable, calculating, and self-seeking. Consequently, self-criticism must go along with criticism, starting from the higher down to lower echelons and vice versa.

In the case of a ruling party, the party must organize well for the people to criticize the party, cadres, and party members, and must welcome criticism and suggestions by the masses. Regrettably, there have been party organizations and members — especially those in positions of authority — who are very fond of hearing reports on good points and achievements and of listening to flatteries of their liking, and who are very ill at ease when hearing the views of people who dare to criticize them. To those comrades, the words "yes sir" are more pleasing to their ears than the words "yes comrades."

With a view to rapidly eliminating bureaucratism, paternalism, arbitrariness, and despotism, and to being worthy of being communists and the people's leaders and truly loyal servants, all cadres and party members must stay close to the grassroots level, fully understand the aspirations of the masses, and listen to their voices. Just as Unclo Ho taught: We must listen to the suggestions of party members, people, and unimportant persons. Self-criticism and criticism must be based on the party lines and viewpoints, the principles of party activities, the functions, tasks, and performances of units; and the productivity, quality, and effectiveness of units and individuals in implementing their duties.

We should not fiercely struggle to the end against trifles and shortcomings in routine work while overlooking those issues involving the party viewpoints and principles, the organization and implementation of the party's political tasks, and the quality and bearing of party members. Squarely looking at shortcomings and mistakes, correctly pointing out their causes, and publicly admitting them shows the healthiness of a strong body. Trying to hide shortcomings and mistakes, failing to correctly assess oneself, and fearing public criticism manifest weakness and malady.

More than ever before, we must be all the more imbued with President Ho Chi Minh's teachings: A party that hides its shortcoming is a failure. A party that strives to admit its shortcomings, points out the causes of these shortcomings, closely examines the circumstances of the shortcomings, and seeks every means to correct them, is a progressive, strong, daring, stable, and genuine party. We are not afraid of the enemy taking advantage of the party's shortcomings to criticize because our party is glorious, just, loved, and trusted by the people. Moreover, we are very vigilant against all the enemy acts of sabotage and the plots of fishing in troubled waters by opportunists and all other villains.

Only by maintaining unity and singlemindness on the strength of developing democracy and encouraging collectives to scrupulously observe discipline, and by stepping up self-criticism and criticism, can the party renovate itself boldly. We must renovate ourselves boldly on the basis of unity, singlemindedness, and Marxism-Leninism which have been continually and creatively applied to the conditions in our country in the present revolutionary stage.

Renovation always bears the characteristics of continuity, a legacy, and development. It is not a total elimination nor a complete denial. Following great President Ho Chi Minh's teachings, our party members and cadres in the Armed Forces will certainly create a new, vigorous, and true change in party activities, beginning the party congresses at all levels to practically advance toward the sixth national party congress with communist confidence.

DISMISSAL OF GEN ATHIT AS ARMY CHIEF REPORTED

BK280313 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Thailand's national radio on 27 May reported that General Athit had been dismissed as Thai Army commander and that General Chawalit, currently Army chief of staff, had been appointed to replace him. The radio also reported that General Chuthai, deputy Army commander in chief, had also been relieved of his position and appointed inspector general of the Armed Forces — a powerless post.

Public opinion notes that this is the first time in Thailand's modern history that an Army commander in chief has been dismissed by a civilian government. Normally, an officer appointed to this key post in the Army concurrently holds the post of supreme commander of the Armed Forces.

The dismissal of General Athit came after it was reported that he had taken part in campaigns that led to the defeat of the government in a parliamentary vote in late A_P ril 1986. After that defeat, the government of Prime Minister Prem was compelled to dissolve parliament and general elections have been scheduled for 27 July of this year.

NHAN DAN SCORES THAI POLICY OF CONFRONTATION

BK271232 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 May 86

[NHAN DAN 24 May article: "Bangkok Wants Confrontation"]

[Text] In recent days some Thai generals have spread vicious, slanderous charges against Vietnam.

The Bangkok-circulated papers DAILY MIRROR and DAO SIAM quoted the commanding general of the Suranari force and the internal security operations command of the 2d Army Region as saying nonsensically that Vietnamese troops deliberately violated Thialand's sovereignty by conducting reconaissance and patrols and setting up strongholds in Thai territory. This general also concocted a story about Vietnam's plan to attack Thialand in 1987 to divide the country, split the Indochinese federation, and isolate China and the United States in this region.

Our people resolutely reject these nonsensical slanders by a group of ultrarightists lin Thai military circles. The world public no longer cares to calculate how many times already Thai reactionary military circles have referred to Vietnam's so-called plan to attack their country. This is because people figured out long ago that these allegations are merly a production of the unhealthy imagination of those who want to seek confrontation with the Indochinese countries.

Thai military circles have resorted to such allegations many times in an attempt to cover up the ignominious acts that they have committee or will commit. In this case everyone can see that behind this smoke screen are dangerous acts taken by Bangkok military circles to strenthen their alliance with the U.S. imperialists and their collusion with the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, step up their intervention in and violation of the PRK's sovereignty and territory, and oppose and undermine the revolutionary cause of the three Indochinese countries.

The plan to establish a U.S. war stockpile in Thailand and the gradual preparation for a return of U.S. troops to that country are being carried out. Joint military exercises between the United States and Thailand have been undertaken more frequently and on a larger and larger scale. These include the combined U.S.-Thai military exercise that is being conducted close to the Thai-Cambodian border and the large-scale military exercise codenamed "Cobra Gold" that will follow with the participation of 9,500 American soldiers and 3,500 Thai troops.

The ultrarightists in the Bangkok ruling circles, together with the Beijing reactionaries, are indirectly procuring supplies for and nurturing the genocidal Pol Pot remnants and other groups of Khmer reactionaries. Top Thai and Chinese leaders have of late met each other to study and discuss their plans. The Bangkok press has admitted that many Thai citizens, including those with responsibilities in the Bangkok administration, are very concerned over their country's deeper involvement in the reactionary strategy of Washington and Beijing.

It is in the hope of covering up and justifying their dangerous acts that the ultrarightist group in Thai military circles has resorted to the use of their old bugbear — the danger of an invasion by Vietnam and the so-called violation of Thai territory by Vietnam. This fabrication has also been made at a time when the Bangkok authorities, together with Washington and Beijing, are waiting anxiously for more disgusting crimes by various Khmer reactionary forces to whom they have given shelter in their territory for use as a pretext for further intervention in Cambodia and continued violation of the PRK's territory.

It is obvious that the Thai authorities only want confrontation, not dialogue, and still pursue obstinately a policy of hostility toward the three Indochinese countries. They content themselves with serving the strategy of the U.S. imperialists and Chinese reactionaries to bleed and weaken Vietnam, oppose and undermine the Vietnamese revolution and the revolutionary cause of the three Indochinese countries, and cause tension and disrupt peace and security in Southeast Asia. All this runs counter to the interests of the Thai people and the people of other countries in the region.

Vietnam's unswerving stand, which has been stated time and again, is to always respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Thailand, not to interfere in its internal affairs, and to develop friendly and good-neighborly relations with that country.

The SRV, together with the PRK and the LPDR, has put forth many constructive and good-will proposals to Thailand, but the latter has rejected them all. Thailand's policy of confrontation is unrealistic, and its slanderous charges can in no way help its short-sighted policy.

PHAM VAN DONG SPEAKS AT BANQUET FOR CHANDRA

OW271631 Hanoi VNA in English 1613 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 27 -- The Vietnamese people will forever engrave in their hearts the warm sentiments felt towards them by World Peace Council President Romesh Chandra, said Chairman Pham Van Dong. At a reception here today of the WPC president, Pham Van Dong, who is also Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, expressed his warm congratulations to Romesh Chandra on his decoration with the Ho Chi Minh Order, the high distinction of the Vietnamese state. Chairman Pham Van Dong expressed the Vietnamese people's fine sentiments towards President Romesh Chandra, a tireless fighter for word peace.

Regarding to the current struggle for peace which is seathing all over the world, Chairman Pham Van Dong said that the struggle for peace is the biggest task of mankind. After stressing that imperialism is the enemy of world peace, Chairman Pham Van Dong expressed his confidence that the WPC and its president, Romesh Chandra, will continue to uphold the peace banner. Chairman Pham Van Dong voiced the Vietnamese people's desire for peace, their friendship and good relations with the Indian people. He said he believed that the two nations will try hard for their common goal of peace and understanding among nations.

Chairman Pham Van Dong and President Romesh Chandra compared notes on the world peace movement. Also present at the reception was lawyer Phan Anh.

The WPC president left Hanoi today concluding his visit to Vietnam. Before leaving, President Romesh Chandra held a press conference on the present world wide fight for peace and activities in various parts of the world in response to the International Year of Peace launched by the WPC. He acclaimed the efforts and the good will of Vietnam and other countries on the Indochinese peninsula to turn Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability and cooperation.

NEW ZEALAND

'FRESH FRICTION' WITH U.S. OVER NUCLEAR POLICY

LD232005 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1900 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Fresh friction has developed between New Zealand and the United States over reports of an American propaganda campaign designed to reverse the Wellington government's nuclear policy. New Zealand's Labor government has sought an explanation from Washington over the local activities of its information agency staff. The request follows media reports in New Zealand that American officials had launched a public relations campaign to try to overturn the Lange administration's nuclear policy. The policy, which includes a ban on port visits by nuclear-armed or powered ships, has caused a crisis in relations leading to Washington assertion that the ANZUS treaty, involving military links between Australia, New Zealand, and America, is now inoperative. In announcing that Wellington is seeking an explanation from Washington over the reports of a public relations campaign, the New Zealand deputy prime minister, Mr. Palmer, said his countrymen would not change their views at the bidding of a foreign power. Washington has replied by saying it does not seek to have New Zealanders do its bidding and said it finds such a suggestion unseemly.

VANUATU

LINI ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., USSR, LIBYA

BK231338 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0810 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Vanuatu's prime minister, Father Walter Lini, has told Australia it must not interfere in his country's internal affairs. After talks with the Australian prime minister, Mr Bill Hayden, in Vila, Father Lini said that he expected to begin negotiating a fishing agreement with the Soviet Union next month. He also said that at some time in the future, he expected to establish full diplomatic relations with Libya. Father Lini told our Pacific correspondent, Trevor Watson, that he also considered Australian expressions of concern as an attempt by Canberra to dictate to independent Vanuatu.

[Begin recording] [Watson] Not for a moment has the sensitive nature of Australia's role in the Pacific been lost on Bill Hayden during his 2-week 8-nation tour of the region. The minister has rarely missed an opportunity to point out that most of the countries of the Pacific are free and independent and that Australia has no right t interfere in their affairs. To do so, he says, would be appaulling. However, he has also used those same opportunities to express his concern at the possibility of the Soviet Union or Libya gaining a foothold in the region that would allow them to meddle in political or military matters. Their activities, he says, must be controlled as tightly as they are in Australia.

As careful as Bill Hayden has tried to be, however, Father Lini has interpreted the minister's expressions of concern as an attempt by Canberra to dictate to Vanuatu. Vanuatu, he says, will begin negotiating a fishing agreement with the Soviet Union probably next month and will consider granting the Russians port facilities.

[Lini] Sometimes, we do not understand the position of the Australian Government. They say they do not want to interfere in our internal affairs and then they turn around and say we are concerned. We do not really know what they mean by we are concerned. [Word indistinct] they do not want to interfere in our internal affairs.

As far as we are concerned, that is all they could say. They should not go on further to say we are concerned that you are considering establishing diplomatic relations with Russia, fishing agreement with Russia, establishing diplomatic relations with Libya, or any other countries. This is why sometimes we do not really understand, and we think that Australians do not understand us at all. And we think that Australians are in fact ignorant of some of the ways that we do things our own way. Canberra is trying to dictate to us to be careful not to establish diplomatic relations with...

[Watson -- interrupting] Did Mr Hayden say that to you this morning? Did Mr Hayden express these concerns to you this morning?

[Lini] Oh, yes. This is expressed to us, and has been expressed to us many times.

[Watson] Father Lini also put up a strong defense of Libya's Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, and accused the United States and France of being the real sponsors of terrorism. Claim that Libya was involved in terrorist activity were, he said, totally unjustified.

[Lini] We cannot really see how you can call Libya terrorist nation and not call United States a terrorist state. We cannot really see how we could call Libya a terrorist state and here in this region other countries could not call France a terrorist state, because we consider the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior, the bombing of schools and offices in New Caledonia in the last years as terrorist action. And to us in our region, and in Vanuatu, France is a terrorist nation. But, as far as we are concerned, too, if Libya is a terrorist nation, we also consider the action that was taken by Americans Against the Libyans in bombing their cities and killing people to be terrorism. It seems to us that America, a superpower, trying to demonstrate by getting Libyans to live in fear that if you want to disagree with us, if you do not listen to us, if you do not agree with us, we will bomb you. This to us is a terrorist action and a terrorist (?philosophy) to try and get the countries to comply with what you want and not allow them to live freely.

[Watson] Is Libya going to establish an embassy here in Vila? And what sorts of things do you expect to get from the relationship?

[Lini] That is too early to say. We do not really know. What we have done is we have listed down Libya, United States, USSR, and 32 more countries to establish diplomatic relations with this year.

[Watson] Has Libya responded?

[Lini] Libya has indicated they would be willing to establish diplomatic relations with us. In establishing links with the Soviet Union and Libya, Vanuatu is gaining more than an opportunity to assert its nonaligned status. Kiribati last year signed a fishing agreement with Moscow worth \$2.4 million. The Vanuatu deal is expected to be worth more than that. On the other hand, a large percentage of Vanuatu's foreign exchange earnings flows straight back out of the country to pay expensive fuel bills. Libya has oil and is sympathetic to the problems of poor but friendly nations. Father Lini rejects claims that he is a rebel and says that Vanuatu is a small independent country that suffers from a bad press, particularly in Australia.

CREATION OF ECONOMIC REVOLUTION URGED BY AQUINO

Pledges Government Support

OW241347 Tokyo KYODO in English 1253 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Cebu, Philippines, May 24 KYODO -- Philippine President Corazon Aquino challenged businessmen Saturday to embark on a second revolution of economic development. In her address to the Cebu Chamber of Commerce in central Philippines, Aquino urged businessmen to "unleash the long-restrained Filipino entrepreneurial pride" saying that "waiting for a better and more stable time is less risky but equally uncertain."

Aquino pointed out that the Philippines, while seeking the help of foreign countries to fund its growth, must be prepared to try to develop on its own. She also said that the government will do its part in trying to provide the climate conducive to investment and growth.

The trip to Cebu is the last leg of Aquino's first trip to the troubled south after being installed into power. She first visited the eastern Mindanao city of Davao where she had a dialogue with 168 insurgent-returnees. She later announced in a speech before representatives of the region that negotiations for a "lasting peace" will be held between the government and insurgents during a cease-fire period which she will declare.

The Philippine economy, virtually devastated by ousted President Ferdinand Marcos' policies and prevalent graft and corruption in his administration, is still burdened with a 26 billion-dollar foreign debt.

One of the first things the Aquino administration did shortly after a four-day civilian-backed military revolt toppled Marcos and gave her the reins of government was to seek better terms from foreign creditors for the payment of the said debts. According to a recent survey conducted in metropolitan Manila by the Development Academy of the Philippines, a large percentage of people in the country's capital see the state of the economy as "the most urgent problem facing the country today."

Urges Cooperation With Labor

HK280538 Hong Kong AFP in English 0528 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 28 (AFP) -- President Corazon Aquino appealed to Philippine business and labor leaders Wednesday to set aside their differences and work together to resolve the country's economic crisis. Mrs. Aquino told a joint national conference of government, business and labor leaders that her deposed predecessor Ferdinand Marcos had left "a shattered economy, an enormous foreign debt and a bankrupt (treasury)."

The Philippines economy has been mired in a recession since 1983, and Manila's 26-billion-dollar foreign debt, the largest in Southeast Asia, has compounded the crisis.

Mrs. Aquino said Mr. Marcos' ouster by a largely-peaceful popular uprising last February gave Filipinos a "hard-won opportunity to start anew and work together" for economic recovery.

But she warned entrepreneurs and workers, who have quarreled for weeks over labor issues, not to "throw away" the chance and challenged them to "show you believe in the free Philippines you fought for." The people were banking on them "to cooperate with each other to rebuild" the country, she said, adding that to do otherwise would be a "mockery of the Filipino dream" of freedom. Both the business community and labor unions were among Mrs. Aquino's staunchest supporters in her campaign for the presidency.

Labor Officials Fear Leftist Infiltration

HK230943 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 May 86 pp 1, 8

[By Olaf Giron]

[Text] Labor officials expressed deep concern yesterday over the possible infiltration of the labor ministry by leftist elements, including communists, under the tenure of Labor Minister Augusto S. Sanchez.

The officials said they have received reports that members of leftist organizations are working for appointments in sensitive labor posts that would be useful to their movement. "They are virtually knocking at our doors," said an official. "Some of us fear they will be soon running things here, if they are not already doing so through the present labor administration."

The officials interviewed are holdover functionaries of the deposed government administration and, although they are career officials, are expecting to be replaced by appointees for the Aquino government.

"The big tragedy is that those of us who maintained the proper decorum during past political contests are prejudiced against, in comparison with the Marcos loyalists who have now ingratiated themselves with the new officials," said the officials who requested anonymity.

Their thesis is that the present labor administration has been trying to deceive Malacanang and the public regarding the role being played by leftist groups instigating the present rash of strikes. They specifically referred to Sanchez who recently scored the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) for "mouthing the Red scare" in defending leftist labor organizations.

They said attributing strikes to Marcos loyalists was "most absurd" if not downright stupid.

Official Labor Ministry reports indicate that leftist are responsible for more than half of the ongoing strikes. The strike figures also indicate that the walkout rate practically doubled from the ongoing 47 strikes when Sanchez took over on March 11, 1986.

The "capture" of the Labor Ministry by leftist elements would work well in pushing the communist strategy which is aimed at destabilizing the government. The overall strategy, as perceived by the labor officials, calls for an insurgency campaign by the New People's Army (NPA) in the countryside, and for strikes and demonstrations in urban and population centers. Elements identified with the National Democratic Front (NDF) would execute the destabilization efforts in urban centers. Certain labor groups have been identified to be part of the NDF.

Noting that the communist movement has made great strides in the country since Sanchez became labor minister, the officials said he has been supporting the leftist movement, either wittingly or unwittingly.

If Sanchez continued about his ways, the officials feared that the conservative labor elements may eventually find themselves in disarray. "They're definitely quite embattled these days," they said.

With his controversial utterances about foreign investments and multinationals, Sanchez reportedly is helping prolong an economic and unemployment situation that could be exploited by the leftists to suit their own design. It was lamented that only the TUCP seemed to have wised up to the situation brought about by the new leadership at the Ministry of Labor and Employment.

U.S. MANIPULATION OF INTERNAL POLITICS ANALYZED

HK271044 Quezon City WE FORUM in English 20-26 May 86 p 4

[By Sonia Dipasupil]

[Text] Hardly had the Filipino by those famous gold bars, people toppled its American-backed dictator when here comes Uncle Sam again, breathing down the national neck in an effort to maintain its grip on Philippine affairs.

In fact, it would do the country a great disservice to think even for one moment that the Yankees shipped out along with Mr. Marcos on that fateful February night. If at all, they had only made a timely switch from openly supporting the unpopular strongman for 20 years to clandestinely transporting him overnight to foreign exile.

Lower echelon U.S. embassy officals, tongues loosened by a cocktail drink or two, will take no great pains concealing their role in diverting the poor guy's plane from paoay to Hawaii. For a few incredulous aahs and ohs, they'll even let you in on how they stood both mesmerized and astounded by those famous gold bars, and how they forced a drugged Ferdinand Marcos to walk down the ramp upon landing at Hickam air base, because "it won't look good internationally" to ferry him out by hospital stretcher straight into waiting TV cameras and living rooms worldwide.

As U.S. officials would later boast unofficially, the decision was made at the last minute "to prevent a massive bloodbath." All in the name of democracy, you see.

So great is the White House's love for overseas democracies that it spirited away no less than two hated dictators in less than a month's time from the tropical climes of Haiti and the Philippines. These third-rate dictators, lest the fact be buried by Washington propaganda, were both openly and assiduously supported and financed by instructions from that cushioned swivel chair in the Oval Office.

Now, the Great American Warrior will have us and the entire world believe that it is likewise embracing and supporting the new Philippine democracy led by a self-confessed political amateur and certified house-wife. This, after openly supporting Marcos' candidacy and later pointedly accusing Mrs. Aquino and her party of being partly responsible for electoral fraud and terrorism last February.

The fact is, and contemporary history will prove us correct, that the United States embraces "democracies" when it finds some particular use for them, namely, to protect its overseas interests, especially its large military installations. And such is the Philippine case.

The United States maintains vast economic interests in the country, from the raw materials needed to sustain their advanced technology to the hundreds of American firms operating cheaply while bringing out huge profits. Its security interests are clear: the protection and unhampered operation of its two largest overseas military installations in Clark Air Base in Pampanga and Subic Naval Base in Olongapo.

The key to the protection of these interests, in turn, lies in the promotion of its political objectives, which is to maintain "friendly relations" with the government in Manila. Necessarily, then, the officials of this government must be friendly with those in Washington. Which is precisely the American strategy to cultivate healthy and supportive relations with opposition figures in politically beleaguered nations. It would then have fostered good relations with either camp, whichever side wins.

In a statement delivered by John Monjo, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs last Thursday before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on East Asia and Pacific Affairs, he identified certain "formidable political tasks" confronting President Aquino. Briefly, these are: working with the competing political forces within her government; retaining her present momentum in reforming or replacing existing political institutions; dealing effectively with the Marcos loyalists and installing competent and reform-minded local officials.

Although Monjo agrees these are "Philippine issues that Filipinos will resolve," he declares in the same breath that practically everyone agrees all these can be solved through the installation of "fully functioning democratic institutions" by means of elections.

"Democratic institutions, he goes on, "including a new constitution ratified by plebiscite, a new elected legislature, and elected local government (officials) -- are the key to the long-term political stability of the country."

In all these bureaucratic double-talk, what Monjo is actually saying is that American interests necessarily require that these "democratic institutions" be manned by individuals friendly to the United States, since the political stability of the Philippines to be nursed by these chosen few shall, in the main, spell the stability of U.S. interests in the country. It is a signal to support pro-U.S. personalities for appointment or election to the Constitutional Commission, the legislature, and in local governments.

This penchant for "hand-picking" friendly personalities to assume powerful and influential positions in government was only recently demonstrated in reverse fashion.

Washington's disapproval of certain progressive and liberal elements in the Aquino government was made known to Malacanang. Various media offensives were launched — their targets: human rights lawyers and now Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo, Presidential spokesman Rene Saguisag, and Labor Minister Augusto "Bobbit" Sanchez.

Of the three, Arroyo is easily the strongest personality. His fiery courtroom arguments are now legendary, and are enough to keep a reporter's pencil either in helpless suspended animation or furiously scratching on paper.

Along with Harvard-educated lawyer Rene Saguisag, Arroyo defended top communist leaders charged with national security violations. Many believe the two are responsible for the release from detention of high-ranking leftists. Threatened recently with "lynching" by a reformist military officer, the two dismissed the whole thing as a "joke" which hardly merited their serious attention.

Of the three, however, Sanchez has the singular "distinction" of having been maliciously singled out for criticism by a top U.S. official. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost recently accused him of deliberatelly sabotaging economic recovery efforts with his pro-labor bias, thus scaring away foreign investors. Informed of the increasing charges against him for being a "leftist" Sanchez reportedly said: "If you define a leftist as one who is in favor of radical reforms, then I'm a leftist, alright."

On the other hand, Armacost and Monjo hold President Aquino's economic team in high esteem commending its "pragmatic, free-enterprise orientation."

How long and how effectively Uncle Sam will keep poking its fingers into the Philippine pie can only be determined by the amount of resistance the Aquino government and the Filipino people are willing to put up. Without this resistance, then it's all systems go for the Reagan White House. And who's going to say Imelda and Ferdinand Marcos won't be smugly twiddling their thumbs from across the ocean?

BANKER PROPOSES U.S. ASSUME DEBT AS BASE RENT

HK270618 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY In English 26 May 86 pp 1, 3

[By Roberto D. Tiglao]

[Text] A ranking Filipino executive of Bank of America, N.A., one of the country's major creditor banks, has come up with a proposal for reducing the country's debt burden that involves linking the Philippine's obligations to commercial banks to the rental payments by the U.S. Government for its military facilities in the country.

Ramon Siy, former country manager for BOFA's Philippine branch and now a regional manager for the bank, explained that for foreign banks, the "quality of their (loan) papers" is very important, by which he meant that banks would be very willing to transfer the liabilities for instance of a risky debtor like the Philippines to a more stable debtor. Foreign banks would be willing to discount -- by 20 percent to 30 percent -- their debts if the Philippines manages to transfer its liabilities to the U.S. Government.

What Siy is proposing is for the U.S. Government to assume some of the country's debts to the banks at such a discount, with the American military bases' rental payments due to the country making up the funds it will use to amortize the assumed debts. Siy said that such an agreement may be possible if the Philippine Government strikes a deal with the U.S. for a long-term lease of the bases. "Perhaps a 20-year lease," he said. The banker noted that his proposal is premised on the computation that the "market value" for the use of the U.S. bases, roughly based on the "replacement cost of the bases," is at least \$8 billion.

Siy made the proposal in the symposium organized by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) to get responses from the public on the "Agenda for Reforms" drawn up by a group of UP [University of the Philippines] economists.

The banker noted that such an approach will be entirely a commercial one that will not be of the kind the government appears to be adopting which he said is one of "begging" for financial support from foreign governments.

Siy emphasized that while he would support a "selective review of the country's obligations" — a reference to government proposals to seek legal remedies to stop payments to creditors involved in illegal transactions with Filipino borrowers — "we must face realities." He said the country must seek a solution to the debt problem that would satisfy foreign creditors. He noted that reduction of interest rates may not be significant. "A one percent reduction of international rates will involve only \$260 million and will not significantly alleviate the country's debt burden," he noted.

One foreign banker claimed that Siy's proposal to some extent reflects a move in the Manila-based foreign banking community to seek ways to alleviate the country's debt-servicing problem. One proposal is to liberalize the conversion of banks' debts into investment equity in multinational subsidiaries through swap arrangements.

UCPB PRESIDENT DENIES FRONTING FOR MARCOS

HK231421 Hong Kong AFP in English 1336 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 23 (AFP) -- The head of a large Philippine Bank nominally owned by the country's coconut farmers denied Friday that he had acted as a front for former President Ferdinand Marcos' investments in the bank. United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB) President Danilo Ursua told a news conference that he had pledged a sizeable block of his personal UCPB shares not to Mr. Marcos but to former UCPB President Eduardo Cojuangco, a close associate of the deposed president.

The Presidential Commission on Good Government, which is tracking down alleged ill-gotten wealth of Mr. Marcos and his close associates, said Thursday Mr. Ursua had admitted endorsing his UCPB stock certificates in blank to Mr. Marcos, in effect acting as his front in the bank. Mr. Ursua said that he had endorsed the shares in blank to Mr. Cojuangco, and since the latter was a close associate of the ex-president, the panel had "erroneously concluded" that these shares were owned by Mr. Marcos.

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, who is UCPB's chairman, defened Mr. Ursua as "not a dummy" of Mr. Marcos, adding, "I would never have appointed him (UCPB) president if I believed otherwise."

Mr. Ursua did not say how many shares he endorsed in blank to Mr. Cojuangco but said their present book value was 37 million pesos (1.8 million dollars). UCPB is one of the country's largest commercial banks, with assets of more than 13 billion pesos (634 million dollars). It is owned on paper and funded by the contributions of the country's 1.4 million mostly-poor coconut farmers.

MARCOS LOYALIST ALLEGED TO ATTEND CPP PLENUM

HK270446 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 26 May 86 p 14

[Text] A large group of armed men, believed to be loyalists of deposed president Ferdinand Marcos, are now in Quezon Province to attend a regional plenum of the Communist Party of the Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army [CPP/NPA] command late this month, Camp Aguinaldo sources disclosed yesterday.

Information gathered by BUSINESS DAY from PC [Philippine Constabulary] Region 4 (Southern Tagalog) acting commander, Col. Orlando Q. Antonio indicated that the rebel command conference is scheduled to take place in Bugak town, Lopez, Quezon province from May 29 to 31.

It will be presided over by CPP/NPA top brass coming from Bicol, Southern Tegalog and Metro Manila. The information also noted the presence in the area of a large group of armed men whose identities have been pinpointed as mostly Ilocanos and Manilenos.

Elements of the 235th PC Company, who are monitoring the dissidents' movement in the area, confirmed that the armed group members are Marcos loyalists sent to establish a rendezvous with the CPP/NPA to possibly explore a peaceful co-existence between the two groups.

Meanwhile, 20 NPA rebels were killed yesterday in a four-hour firefight with government troopers at the municipal boundary of Abulog-Maligui and Babaui in Cagayan Province last Saturday.

Reports received at Camp Crame said about 150 NPA guerillas engaged a company of soldiers belonging to the 17th Infantry Battalion of the Army. A soldier and two local militiamen of the Civilian Home Defense Forces were also wounded in the incident.

NUMBER OF MARCOS LOYALISTS ON TREK DWINDLES

HK280431 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 27 May 86 p 8

[Text] Baguio City -- The long trek of members of the National Civilian Marcos Loyalists (CML) entered its 10th day yesterday but the number of participants has dwindled to only some 500 upon reaching Urdaneta, Pangasinan, the Constabulary Highway Patrol Group (CHPG) said.

The loyalists started their march in Laoag City last may 16 and so far have covered 303 kilometers. Despite the dwindling number, the Marcos loyalists are determined to fulfill their cause and reach Manila after 15 days. Lawyer Anthony Santos, CML leader, led the group composed mostly of Kabataang Barangay members.

TOLENTINO CHALLENGES AQUINO TO HOLD ELECTIONS

HK270638 Manila MANILA BULLETIN In English 26 May 86 pp 1, 14

[By Romeo C. Chan]

[Text] Davao City -- Former Senator Arturo M. Tolentino challenged President Aquino yesterday to hold elections "if her government is not afraid of facing the people." Tolentino said he believes the Aquino government is "illegitimate." It can be legitimized if it will win in an election, he said.

Tolentino, together with former Batasang Pambansa speaker Nicanor Yniguez, former MPS P.C. Alejandro D. Almendras and Manuel Garcia, met with Kilusang Bagong Lipunan leaders and barangay captains to revitalize the party.

He pointed out that the elections can solve two problems confronting the present government. He said local elections will settle the problem of who should sit as local government officials. Election on the national level will also determine whether the government is generally accepted by the people, "not by just one or two million people, who do not represent the 55 million Filipinos," he said.

Tolentino said the recognition by foreign governments does not legitimize the Aquino government. "These same foreign governments will readily recognize another government which may replace the Aquino government," he said.

He pointed out that if majority of the candidates of the administration will win, it is enough indication that the Aquino government enjoys the support of the people. He said he will abandon his claim to the vice presidency as soon as President Aquino calls for an election. He said he will take his oath as duly elected vice president on Aug. 25.

OPLE WELCOMES ROLE ON CONSTITUTION PANEL

HK270211 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] President Corazon Aquino is expected to formally announce this week the appointment of the five opposition representatives to the Constitutional Commission [Concom]. The five were recommended by former Labor Minister Blas Ople. The nominees from the opposition were former Labor Minister Blas Ople, former Senator Alejandro Almendras, Regalado Maambong of Cebu City, Rustico Delos Reyes of Laguna and former Member of Parliament Teodulio Natividad of Bulacan. The president announced Sunday 44 names of the 50-member Concom which will convene on June 2 at the former Batasang Pambansa in Quezon City to draft a new constitution that will replace the provisional freedom constitution. The remaining six slots, according to President Aquino, have been reserved for the opposition and other sectors [as heard].

Meanwhile the Partido Nacionalista ng Pilipinas [PNP] has accepted the government's offer for opposition participation in the Concom. Acting chairman Blas Ople said the government's gesture of alloting five seats for the opposition in the Concom open up new potential for reconciliation.

[Begin Ople recording] The fact that President Aquino does welcome opposition participation, even on this symbolic scale, can open up new potential for reconciliation and can be a small step towards developing a strong and pluralistic democratic system through the constitutional commission. The PNP of course is accepting the challenge to participate, on the basis of its program of political cooperation towards the Aquino government. [end recording]

ENRILE, BALWES ASKED TO ATTEND 'PEOPLE'S BATASAN'

HK270759 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 26 May 86 p 15

[Text] The "People's Batasan" predominantly composed of Kilusang Bagong Lipunan [KBL] members of the abolished Batasang Pambansa will hold its second rump session on May 31 in Baguio city.

In a meeting over the weekend, leaders of the KBL, Partido Nacionalista ng Pilipinas and the group of independents said the People's Batasan session will focus public attention on the framing of a new regular constitution to replace President Corazon C. Aquino's revolutionary constitution.

PNP chairman and former KBL member Blas F. Ople said the political opposition has invited rebel priest Conrado Balweg as one of the guest speakers of the People's Batasan. The other invited guest is Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

To this date, both guests have not officially responded to the invitation extended them, Ople said. "We are hoping minister Enrile and Fr. Balweg will attend," he added. If they fail to personally attend the People's Batasan, probably our guests can send their representatives.

Ople said the People's Batasan invited Balweg because it will discuss the principle of autonomy -- particularly Balweg's announced "Cordillera autonomous region" plan. The People's Batasan can probably help formulate a principle on the autonomy of cultural communities in other regions of the country which will be incorporated in the new constitution, Ople said.

PIMENTEL STEPS DOWN AS PDP-LABAN CHAIRMAN

HK280437 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 May 86 pp 1, 7

[By F. V. Maragay]

[Text] A major shakeup in the leadership of the PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan] is silently going on as it continues to take steps to prepare the party for future political battles.

Local Government Minister Aquilino Pimentel Jr. has stepped down as the party's national chairman after serving the post for two years. Pimentel was succeeded by ex-MP Zafiro Respicio who recently assumed the acting mayorship of Davao City.

PDP-Laban Secretary General Jose Cojuangco has played a leading role in strengthening the party, particularly in drafting new members and organizing new chapters in various parts of the country.

Respicio announced yesterday that the PDP-Laban national council will meet on May 31 in Davao City to take up urgent matters. Before the council meeting, two important conferences will be attended by party representatives on May 29-30. These are the conferences of the PDP-Laban National Education Committee and the National Youth Organization with its theme "Kabataan: -- Sandigan ng Kinabukasan."

Respicio, incumbent national working committee chairman, however, said that the party has decided to postpone its national convention originally slated to start May 31 to a later date. He said the postponement was arrived at by the host (Davao City council) following an urgent request from top party leaders.

As this developed, local officials yesterday said they support the stand taken by Pimentel to maintain the coalition between the PDP-Laban and Unido as a step to ensure party members' chances for success in future elections.

The Municipal Mayors' League of South Cotabato appealed to leaders and members of the PDP-Laban and Unido to put an end to intra-party bickerings which are inimical to their interests.

BUSCAYNO CRITICIZES MILITARY ROLE IN TRUCE

Urges Pull-Out From Rural Areas

HK231055 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 May 86 p 3

[By Rose de la Cruz]

[Text] A former rebel leader urged the government yesterday to withdraw the military from the rural areas and respect the people's rights to live as they please and make themselves more productive.

Speaking at the breakfast forum Tigpawan sa Makati, Bernabe Buscayno alias Kumander Dante of the New People's Army said he went to the hills because of the "military atrocities" against the farmers, which he said have not been corrected even under the administration of President Aquino.

Buscayno also branded as "unnecessary" the recent appeal of the President for the NPAs to "come down and join hands with the government" saying that NPAs can never be removed from their barrios in the hills becaus that is where they actually live.

What he instead proposed was for the military to come down and stay were they are more needed, which, he said, is in Metro Manila.

He said that the past government had been suspicious of the rural folks' initiative to organize themselves into productive socio-economic units, which he described as "mini governments" run by small people. He said such groups and endeavors should have been allowed to exist rather than have them killed.

His other proposals were:

- -- Declare a genuine land reform program, which he noted should start from the ranks of the leadership.
- -- Stop the intervention of foreign financial institutions in the affairs of the Philippines.
- -- Stop militarization and harassment of rural people.
- -- Dismantle the foreign bases and agreements that have been entered into but which infringed on the country's territorial integrity.

Another peasant leader, Jaime Tadeo of the Kilusang Magbubukid sa Pilipinas, criticized as a "fraud" the Marcos -- imposed land reform program because the program did not guarantee the farmers' ultimate right to own their lands.

Tadeo said patents and titles issed to tenant farmers did not ultimately lead to ownership because the conditions to ownership were made in such a way that farmers would surely default on their amortizations.

While land rentals were reduced from 40 to 10 percent by Marcos, Tadeo said the other costs of production were increased by over 100 percent, thus disabling farmers from becoming more productive and paying their land rentals on time for eventual transfer of land titles and patents to them.

Fears Failure of Talks

HK270826 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 25 May 86 pp 1, 3

[By Roy S. De Guzman]

[Text] Former New People's Army (NPA) chief Bernabe Buscayno, also known as "Kumander Dante," fears that ceasefire talks between the government and rebel leaders may fail and lead to an all-out war. "It would be quite a sad spectacle to see continued fighting in the countryside," Buscayno told the Inquirer in an exclusive interview. "But the way things stand now, talks may not push through."

Buscayno also described the Davao returnees as "fake" rebels who were "produced" by the military to mislead the President into thinking NPA guerillas are "surrendering in droves" all over the country.

The former rebel chief blames the military for the failure to hold talks between government and NPA representatives.

Military officials have retained former President Marcos' much-criticized policies in dealing with Communist insurgents, he said, and the Aquino administration seems to have adopted a hardline stance on the 17-year rebellion.

"The militarists' view in the Armed Forces of the Philippines is fed to Cory by the so-called reformist leaders," Buscayno said.

The President's meeting with alleged rebels in Davao City last Friday, and the subsequent offers of amnesty and rehabilitation are steps "in the wrong direction," Buscayno said. "If these disturbing events continue and the militarists' view -- on the prodding of the United States' government -- still holds sway, then efforts to arrange a truce in the fighting will fail," he said.

Buscayno warned that an all-out war -- "worse than during the Marcos days" -- would erupt soon if the Aquino government continues to rely on a military solution and refuses to allow a political settlement.

He said that the CPP NPA, along with the broad dissident coalition grouped under the National Democratic Front (NDF), have the capability to launch offensives not only in the countryside but also in the cities, including Metro Manila. Buscayno said he personally trusts the leadership of Corazon Aquino, but is wary of the Enrile-Ramos group which controls the 250,000-strong AFP.

MISAMIS ORIENTAL GOVERNOR HOLDS CEASE-FIRE TALKS

HK271000 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 24 May 86 p 16

[By Romi Gatuslao]

[Text] Cagayan de Oro City -- Misamis Orental Gov. Vicente Emano and two leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) North Central Mindanao command agreed to a ceasefire in certain areas during a meeting yesterday.

Emano met with Nido Nabong, alias Charo, and Ka Vernon, leaders of the North Central Mindanao command, which covers front 4 (east Misamis Oriental and some parts of Agusan del norte), front 12 (west Misamis Oriental), front 6 (Bukidnon). The meeting, held during Emano's 16-hour stay at a hillside rebel camp, was the first between a government official and NPA leaders.

The rebel leaders said their prime consideration for a conditional ceasefire was to enable farmers to go back to their homes. They stressed though that this should be taken by the military as a sign of weakness. [sentence as published] They warned that "they will not just sit back when their supporters complain of abuses by military and para-military personnel."

They also said that the ceasefire does not mean they would eventually lay down their arms. Stressing that the agreement would allow them to be flexible, the rebels assured that they will be sincerely supporting the civilian government's efforts toward peace. "We realized there is a call for moderation from both parties to enable the Aquino government to pursue democratization" remarked Nabong.

The NPA commanders also said their meeting with Emano would remove irritants between rebels and the civilian government under Marcos. In the past, they noted that even neutral local officials were forced to make a stand against the NPA's. This caused the rapid rise of fanatic bands, para-military and civilian counter-insurgency groups and private armies.

But as a consequence of the signing of the pledge and pact by Emano, the military command and the Catholic Church, there has been no firing from their lines since April 15, when Emano first went to Claveria to try to meet with the NPA's.

On the other hand, the military stationed in Claveria, continued to conduct raids and small-unit operations, encouraging fanatic bands to roam free and harass farmers, in clear violation of the Emano pledge.

Nabong himself later informed Social Service Deputy Minister Karina Constantino David of the talks through radio. David was in Claveria to look into the welfare of 200 evacuees who have returned to Tagoloan. Aside from inviting the minister to visit them, the rebels agreed to keep communication lines open through Emano.

David also announced that she has created a special task force to look into the welfare of Misamis Oriental evacuees, specially those from Claveria. She also told Tagolon Mayor Paulino Emano and the rebels that food and medical supplies would be airlifted to the area. She told Emano that she would seek the dismantling of armed bands terrorizing farmers.

Aside from this repoter, only two other local newsmen were present during the meeting -- Bingo Alcordo of radio station DXCO and Mackie Rulona of DXMO.

During the meeting, the NPA's appealed to displaced people who were victims of black propaganda against the NPA to return to their homes. They also said they would stop their purge of military agents within their ranks. At present they are rehabilitating 50 people for release.

They also reported an undisclosed number of executions of those guilty of espionage and sabotage. The rebels told David that the people would return to their homes if the military stopped operations in the barrios.

MUSLEM ENVOY DISCUSSES CEASE-FIRE WITH MILITARY

BK270325 Manila PNA in English 0320 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 27 (PNA) -- A tribal chieftain, who claimed to be an emissary of the splinter Bangsa Moro Liberation Front (BMLF), Monday showed up in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, to negotiate with the military for a ceasefire in northern Mindanao. Turibio Dainhag, alias Datu Kawtlihan, told military authorities he was sent by three BMLF commanders in the region to work out a ceasefire in response to President Aquino's reconciliation call. He identified the three BMLF leaders as George Batiag, alias Commander Lucky of Bukidnon; Hamil Panimbilon, alias Commander Makasunog of Magpit, Cotabato; and Adullah Sarip, alias Commander Tawan-Tawan of Lanao Del Sur.

Dainhay and military authorities led by Col. Arturo Castro, assistant deputy for civil-military operations, discussed for one and a half hours details of the ceasefire. Dainhay also told the military of his fear that communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Kabakan, Cotabato, might attack his men after they surrender to the government. He said he and his followers are willing to help military authorities in fighting the NPA in his area. The tribal chieftain accused the NPA for the death of many of his tribesmen.

The military assured Dainhay that military commanders in northern and central Mindanao will pave the way for the eventual implementation of the ceasefire negotiation.

SUGAR INTERESTS URGE U.S. QUOTA RESTORATION

HK271554 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS In English 27 May 86 p 10

[Text] Sugarmen yesterday said that the government should press its bid for the restoration of the country's traditional quota of 980,000 tons in the U.S. to generate additional foreign exchange earnings of \$400 million. They said the sum can help in the launching of the country's socio-economic recovery.

In a radio program in Bacolod City yesterday, former Ambassador Ramon Nolan, former Bacolod City Mayor Romeo C. Guanzon and Frank Eala, executive vice-president of Victorias Sugar Milling Co. and officer-in-charge of the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucom) in Negros Occidental, also batted for the replacement of Philsucom by a new sugar body to dismantle the sugar monopoly. They said that the new sugar body be made up of representatives of millers, planters and workers.

Nolan was sugar quota administrator and chairman-general manager of the Philippine Sugar Institute in 1966- to 1971 while Guanzon is the new president of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters. Guanzon and Eala said Nolan's stand that "the sugar industry can instantly increase foreign exchange earnings because it already has the installed milling facilities, the fertile lands, technical know how and more than adequate manpower to fill restored sugar quotas in the U.S."

Guanzon also urged that steps be immediately taken to pay over P1.2 billion long overdue producers for the 1984-85 sugar deliveries to the National Sugar Trading Corp (Nasutra). He stressed that, "the non-payment of Nasutra's accounts and the stoppage of weekly payments for producers' deliveries to the Philsucom have subjected them and their workers to more severe socioeconomic problems, including unjust and unfair property foreclosures."

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